

The new Man. U. SHOOT!

25p

11th JULY, 1981

**TONY
WOODCOCK'S
COLOGNE
DECISION**

**Aberdeen's
PETER WEIR
— Scotland's
record buy**

Stoke's Brendan
O'Callaghan in an aerial
duel with Man. City
skipper Paul Power.

**JUSTIN
FASHANU**
England's
first black
superstar

**GLENN HODDLE
STORY** **IN PICTURES**

Soccer's dole queue

MORE than 350 League players will be out of work at the end of this month as the recession bites deep into the fabric of the professional game.

Clubs are embarking on a massive clearout of players in an effort to balance their books and keep accountants at arm's length.

Among the better known players shown the door are Jim Holton (Coventry), Richie Powling (Arsenal), John O'Hare (Forest), Dragoslav Stepanovic (Manchester City), Peter Grotier (Cardiff), Bobby Ferguson (West Ham), Barry Butlin, Don Givens and John Cutbush (Sheffield United), Mick Horswill (Hull City), Terry Brisley (Portsmouth), Terry Conroy and Peter Coyne (Crewe), Les Bradd (Stockport), and Ray Goddard (Wimbledon).

SHOOT view!

Players such as John O'Hare and Bobby Ferguson are reaching the end of distinguished careers. Few will mourn for them as they bid goodbye to clubs they have served so well.

Less fortunate is Arsenal's Richie Powling, his career destroyed by injury, and a host of young professionals, many of them not yet public figures, whose hopes of making the big-time have been killed-off.

For them the future is particularly bleak, their livelihoods taken away at a stroke with no redress.

Paul Sugrue, for instance, is one whose career lies in ruins. He joined Manchester City from Nuneaton Borough with every hope of bridging the gap between non-League soccer and the First Division.

John Bond thinks otherwise and Sugrue's talents have been dispensed with at Maine Road.

Fans would be wrong to believe that a footballer's life is a whirl of champagne, and nightclubs.

Soccer's darker side barely receives a mention in the national papers.

Seventy nine First Division players, 87 from the Second Division, 83 from the Third, and 108 from the Fourth were invited to enter their manager's offices this summer to hear the words: "I'm sorry, but I'm giving you a 'free'."

It's the statement players dread hearing most, and in times of raging inflation and long dole queues, not even so-called pampered footballers are spared the rod.

Falling gates and higher wage demands are forcing clubs from all Divisions to cut back on the number of contract players they keep on their books.

Who can blame the players for fighting for all they can get in a career which, for some, is almost over before it has begun?

Justin Fashanu is a young man who knows exactly where he's going — to the top. His confidence should not be confused with arrogance; he has an absolute belief in his own ability and refuses to consider being second-best. England could certainly do with more players with Fashanu's attitude.

IF Fashanu knows where he's going, he isn't sure with whom. Relegation with Norwich City was a blow, but his days at Carrow Road somehow seemed numbered anyway. He needs a bigger stage for his talents, even if an original price of £2 million was ridiculous by today's standards.

Half an hour in Fashanu's company leaves you feeling that you can do anything, too. He's an immensely likeable and intelligent young man who is fully aware that football is crying out for a superstar to take over Kevin Keegan's throne — and why not a



Chris Davies meets...

ENGLAND'S FIRST BLACK JUSTIN

black one?

"Commercially everything centres around what you do on the field," he says. "You must have the right person handling your affairs, but at the end of the day you have to produce the goods where it really matters."

'If I join a top club it could be the start of something big'

"Soccer is searching for personalities and if I join a top club it could be the start of something big. If I don't, I'll still get where I want to, but it may take longer."

Fashanu's contract with Norwich has two more years to run, although he is likely to start the new season elsewhere. He appreciates there is a fine dividing line between loyalty and personal ambition.

"I want to be successful and the only way to be recognised is to play at the highest level. Division Two wouldn't suit me. Loyalty is a funny word. There isn't too much of it in football. You could say: 'Why not be the first?'"

"In my two and a half seasons in Norwich's first team I've done well. Scored 23 goals last season. I could have left the club earlier. If they can get £800,000 for me they'll be happy. After a season in the Second Division my value could go down — who knows?"

"I don't feel I'm letting the club down. Relegation hit me hard. It still does. I suppose it hasn't fully sunk in yet. It will if I return and see the Second Division fixture list. No disrespect to those taking our place, and they've earned promotion, but Norwich are better."

"I'm just starting an England Under-21 career and it's hard enough to adapt to international football when playing in Division One, let alone Division Two. It's

much easier to win representative honours if you're with a fashionable club."

Fashanu will spend the summer playing for Adelaide City in Australia while his future is being sorted out.

"I didn't want to stay too close to Norwich," he says.

Fashanu seems the sort of person to succeed anywhere. His positive thinking, coupled with the sort of physique that ensures no one ever kicks sand in his face, makes him a winner.

"I like to enjoy myself all the

time, whatever I'm doing. Whatever I do I give it 100 per cent. Joe Royle says I'm a very uncomplicated person and he's right.

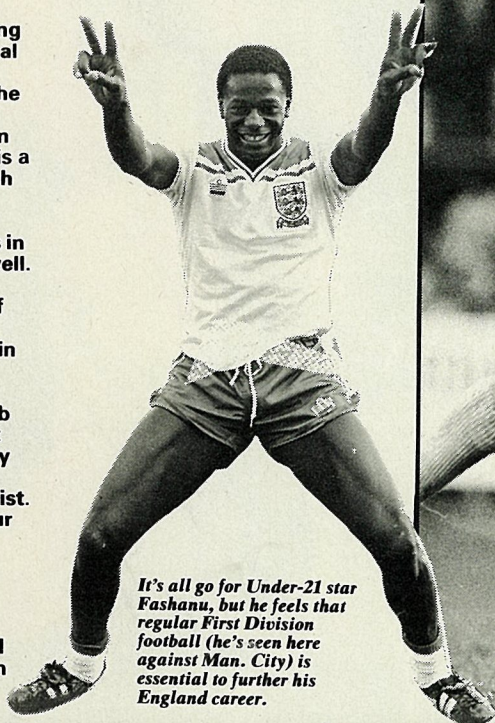
"I look upon having the right attitude as a skill. All the technique in the world won't get you through unless you have the necessary application."

"I'm inspired by anyone who's reached the top in their profession."

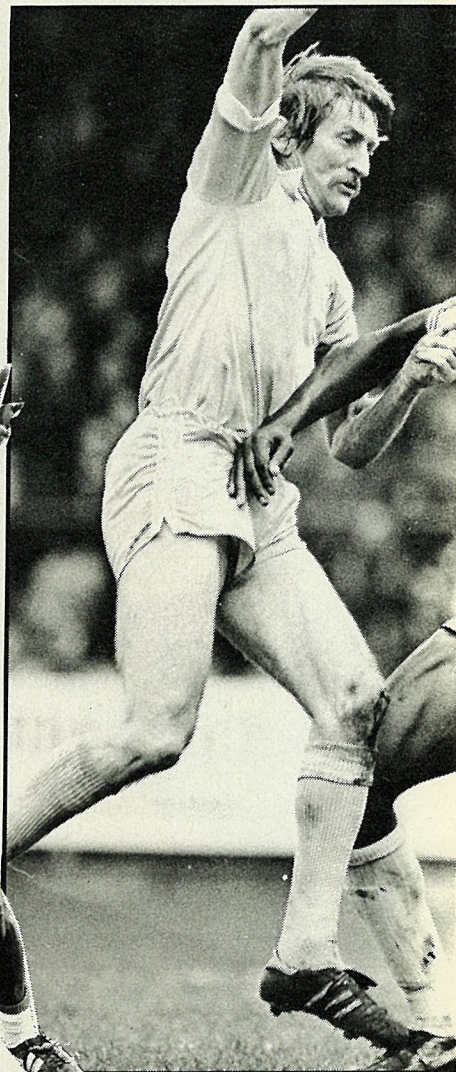
'It's easier to play for England with a First Division club'

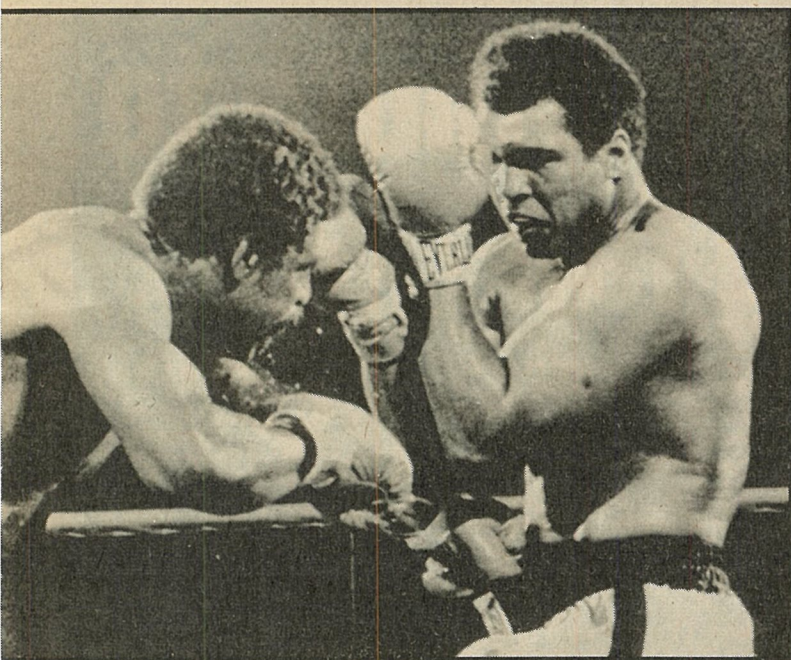
I watched Kevin Keegan closely on the recent England tour because he's got where he has by hard work. The reason for his success is dedication.

"Muhammad Ali has been an inspiration to me. I said once I'd liked to be loved as much as Ali, and it came out that I was the next Muhammad Ali. He must have the



It's all go for Under-21 star Fashanu, but he feels that regular First Division football (he's seen here against Man. City) is essential to further his England career.





best attitude of any sportsman. He took on everyone and beat them and I'd like to be able to do that."

'Muhammad Ali has been an inspiration to me'

Fashanu still works out a couple of times in the gym, time permitting, each week and took to cycling to Carrow Road to improve his fitness.

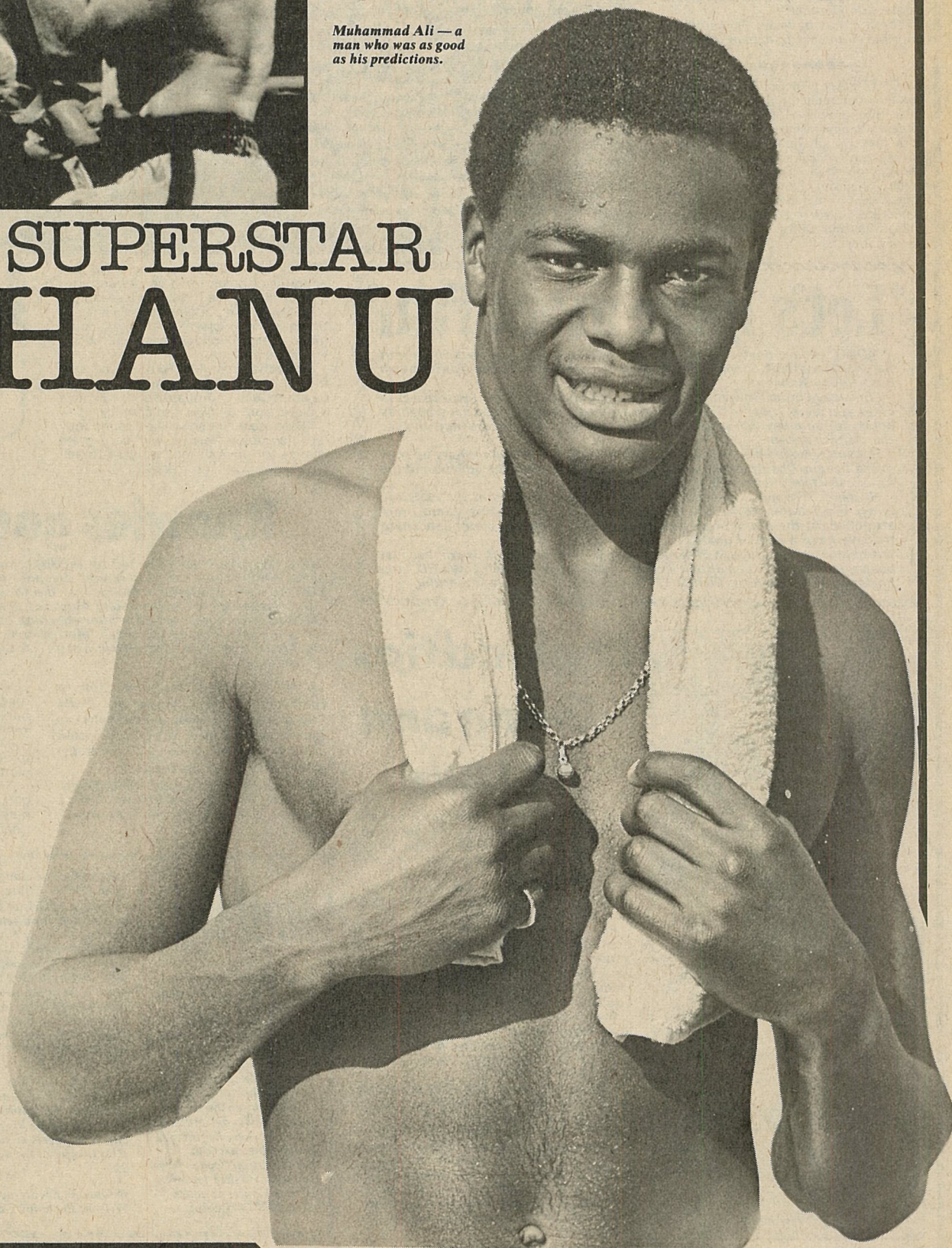
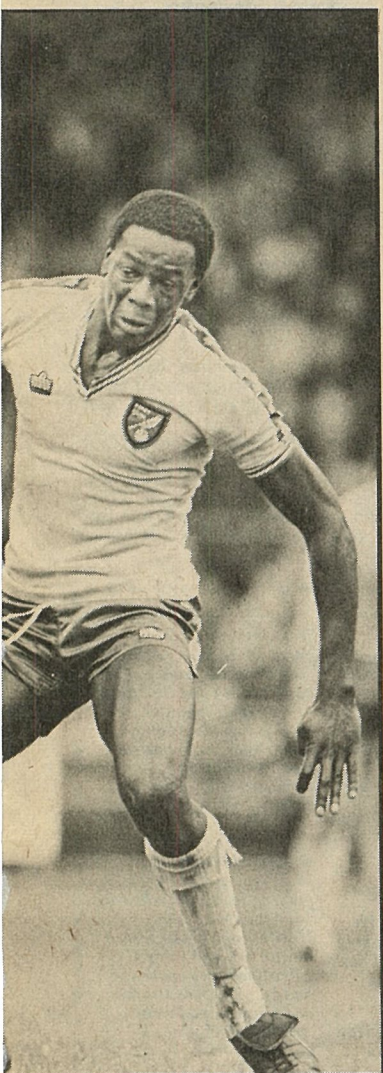
Muhammad Ali — a man who was as good as his predictions.

"I'm an aggressive person and boxing helps relieve my frustrations. It also puts an edge on my soccer. I hope it doesn't sound conceited when I say no one has ever frightened me in football."

Fashanu's immediate future is unknown . . . but I get the impression that in the long term it's obvious where he's going: to the top.

Expect some transfer action when he returns from Australia, with Manchester City leading the bidding; John Bond would like his former player.

SOCCER SUPERSTAR FASHANU



HEARTS have their eyes on Aberdeen's Willie Garner and Celtic's Roddy McDonald. The Tynecastle club are expected to approach the two clubs for the players in an attempt to strengthen the side for the fight to get the Edinburgh side back to the Premier Division in one season. Recent boardroom changes at Tynecastle have resulted in an injection of cash which should give the new boss the chance to buy some star players.

NORMAN LEET, a 19-year-old defender with Leicester, is looking forward to next season more than most.

The former England schoolboys captain made his League debut in Leicester's final match of the season and gave a heartening display in the 3-2 defeat of home side Norwich.

Norman now believes his display will help him into the first team again.

GLENTORAN manager Ronnie McFall is certainly determined not to let the Belfast East Enders rest on their 1980-81 Irish League Championship laurels.

In fact, the big-thinking Oval supremo has already added considerable strength and stability to his senior line-up with the highly promising double-capture of seasoned central defender Dermot Keely, from Eire Leaguers Dundalk, and former Cliftonville and Derby County midfielder Barney Bowers.

Stars pay tribute to amazing fan

A LONDON schoolboy has achieved the remarkable feat of visiting all 92 Football League grounds.

He went through the turnstiles at Chelsea in short trousers at the age of eight, the first League ground he saw, and completed his circuit of the four Divisions last season when he was guest of honour at Liverpool.

The Anfield club honoured Tony Incenzo's visit from his home in Tarling Road, East Finchley, London, by presenting him with Kenny Dalglish's famous number seven shirt autographed.

Liverpool captain Phil Thompson took him to meet the players, including Dalglish (right), and the club presented him with a crystal glass tankard to commemorate the visit.

"It was the greatest day of my life," beams Tony, who left Bishop Douglass School, East Finchley, the other day and is hoping to get a job with a League club as an administrator.



'Let's have more fun'

DON'T expect next season's three-points-for-a-win rule to bring about many dramatic changes in the game. That's the warning from Ipswich boss Bobby Robson.

"In a way I hope I'm wrong," he says, "but I have a feeling it will be a case of 'as you were' most of the time. I'd have been more pleased if it was three points for an away win because I think there's got to be more incentive for the visitors to win."

Robson, who led his team to success in the UEFA Cup and runners-up spot in the League Championship, would even like to see the introduction of the American-style offside rule in this country.

He says: "I'm not advocating that we should tamper with the rules too much but I think we've got to consider ideas to make the game more attractive. At the moment players are so good at denying opponents space that we have a lack of goals."

● Champions In Europe, a 50-page colour tribute to Ipswich Town, has just been published. You can obtain a copy by writing to Ipswich Town F.C. Ltd., Portman Road, Ipswich. Cost is £2.75, including postage and packing.



England tips —Swain and Batson

BEFORE England's two-match British Championship campaign, manager Ron Greenwood had used 49 players in 40 senior matches over a period of nearly four years.

During that time, the position of right-back has stayed very much in the possession of one man.

Phil Neal, six and a half years a Liverpool star, has played in 24 of those 40 games. But there has been a call to try new blood at the back — and the two leading contenders are Ken Swain (left) and Brendon Batson.

Swain, signed by Aston Villa manager Ron Saunders from Chelsea, in December, 1978, was one of the main reasons for Villa's first Championship success in 71 years.

"On his day, there isn't a better player in the League in that position," says manager Ron Saunders.

Batson of West Bromwich Albion played twice for England B's during March, against the United States, a match England won 1-0, and the 3-2 defeat in Spain. While the results were not that impressive, his individual performances for England's 'seconds' were good.

FOURTH DIVISION Torquay have just announced plans for a soccer summer school during the 1982 close season.

And with the appointment recently of Bruce Rioch as player coach, that could mean World Cup class for hundreds of youngsters.

Club chairman Mr Tony Boyce said this week that the coaching school will be able to accommodate about 100 boys a week from all over the country.

"Because we're so well off for holiday facilities down here, it will be a great chance for boys to incorporate football with lots of other activities."

Knowles goes home

CYRIL KNOWLES has returned to Middlesbrough 17 years after he left them for Spurs. Knowles was an "unknown" defender when Spurs signed him in 1964 for £42,500, a record fee for a full-back at the time.

Middlesbrough manager Bobby Murdoch was thrilled when Knowles agreed to move back to Ayresome Park after coaching at Doncaster Rovers.

The former Celtic and Scottish international star says: "Knowles played at the top flight. I was impressed with him at an F.A. Course at Lilleshall and with his work at Doncaster."

TERRY COCHRANE'S sending-off in Northern Ireland's disastrous 0-1 World Cup defeat by Sweden, in Stockholm, on June 3, was only the fourth time an Ulsterman has received marching orders in the 101-year history of the Irish F.A.

The others were Linfield's Billy Ferguson, and one-time Manchester United superstar George Best, who was sent-off twice.

LOCAL boy Alex Williams has twice made good for Manchester City as he has stepped into League action "between the sticks."

And Alex is keen to give recognition to two other men who have been stalwarts as City goalkeepers.

One is current first choice Joe Corrigan, and the other Steve Fleet, a former player who was Youth coach at Maine Road until last October.

Briefly...

● Fred Ford, now at Oxford United, was named the 1981 winner of the Bell's Scotch Whisky Service to Football award.

Fred, who has been in hospital, has had a remarkable career since joining Charlton Athletic in 1935. After the War he went to Millwall and then Carlisle where he finished his playing career to become trainer/coach from 1949-55. He then joined Bristol Rovers as coach until 1960, switching to

Bristol City as manager from 1960-67 before returning to Bristol Rovers as manager for a year. He went to Swindon Town as manager in 1969, to Torquay Utd as coach in 1971 and from 1973 he has been at Oxford Utd as Youth Organiser. He was also F.A. staff coach, England 'B' and Under-23 trainer 1955-60.

● Mick Lawlor has resigned as Assistant Manager of Dundalk. He wants to resume his playing career and feels he still has a lot to offer at the age of 32.

● Glenavon wing-ace Alan Wilson, Portadown and

Northern Ireland Youth international defender-cum-midfielder Raymond Hill and Larne goal-getter Tony Bell have one thing in common. All three are products of the talent-spotting Armagh Boys' Club outfit, which competes in Ulster youth soccer.

● Midfielder Jimmy McIlwraith did not start playing soccer until he was 16. Now 26, he is at Halifax — his fourth club — and has had three operations, two broken hands, numerous stitches and strains and has also suffered phlebitis and glandular fever.

Carlisle stopper joins Dundee

IN a determined bid to do well in the Scottish Premier Division next season, newly promoted Dundee have been making an intensified search for experienced players to strengthen their team.

An initial approach to Derby's John Duncan resulted in disappointment when the big striker turned down an offer to return to Dens Park. John, a fully qualified S.F.A. and F.A. coach, told Dundee manager Donald Mackay that he had decided to join Fourth Division Scunthorpe United as a player-manager.

But Mr Mackay had better luck with Carlisle's Elgin born centre-half Iain MacDonald. The clubs agreed on a transfer fee of £37,000.

"Iain is a good player who will provide us with depth in defence and give us a great deal of variety as well. Every club needs all the first-class players it can get," he said.

Kelly's brave

NEWCASTLE'S Peter Kelly must qualify as one of football's bravest players . . . and one of the unluckiest.

The Scottish full-back fought back after a specialist advised him to quit because of a knee injury.

After being on the verge of Under-21 honours with Scotland, he had to start again with the reserves at Newcastle.

But his progress has been hampered by a succession of injuries not connected with his knee.

He has had a cartilage operation and a broken wrist before finishing the season on the sidelines with a broken nose.

Mystery man

WHO runs North Paddington Boys Club's under-14 team? Mark Germain, of 54 Angelina Street, Butetown, Cardiff, is anxious to find out his identity to see whether the London club would like to play a Butetown under-14 team in London.

IAN GILZEAN, son of former Spurs and Scotland striker Alan Gilzean, scored the goal which saw his Enfield school on their way to the ESFA Six-a-Side Championship, at Wembley.

Iain, playing for Raglan Junior School, scored the opening goal against Bewley Junior School, from Cleveland, and David Atkinson clinched a 2-0 victory with a second half goal.

AFTER hitting rock bottom and being dropped from the reserves, 20-year-old Birmingham defender Pat van den Hauwe came back to break into the first team towards the end of the season and earn a great compliment from long serving centre-half Joe Gallagher.

Gallagher said after the youngster had played alongside him: "He did extremely well. It was just like having my usual partner, Colin Todd, there to rely on."

FRANCIS KNOTTED

"I'VE always wanted to tie a Forest Player in Notts." . . . and 13-year-old Neil Crofts from Dumfries did just that when he came to London to receive his prize for winning the National Palitoy Electronic Striker competition.

Neil's knowledge of football and his tie-breaker line of why he'd like to play Electronic Striker with Trevor Francis meant that he beat over 7,000 other competitors, in what was a highly successful campaign recently run in boys' comics.

During his stay in London, Neil had lunch with the England squad and afterwards challenged the famous Nottingham Forest player to a game of Electronic Striker.

RONNIE GLAVIN, the 29-year-old Barnsley midfielder player was the main reason the club jumped into the Second Division, but he still has his eye on the First Division.

Glavin, who has notched nearly 50 goals in two seasons, earns this praise from manager Norman Hunter: "Ronnie is a good player with plenty of potential and he will be even better in the Second Division."

But Hunter then adds a word of caution to his unsettled star: "No one is leaving this club unless I say so. Money doesn't matter."

Glavin, who was signed for £45,000 from Celtic in June, 1979, cost the Scottish Champions £80,000 from Partick Thistle in 1975. His value now is £400,000.

Dons striker goes

ABERDEEN striker Duncan Davidson (left) has decided to sever his connections temporarily with Scottish football and continue his playing career in America.

Following a flying visit to the States, Duncan agreed to sign for Tulsa Roughnecks, who clinched the deal by paying out a reported £30,000 transfer fee for the player. Davidson had been nine years at Pittodrie.

His transfer was a disappointment for Dundee, who still hope to obtain his services for next season.

'Remember me'

PLEADS KEARNS

WITH the Republic of Ireland slumping to a couple of World Cup build up match defeats, Wolves' keeper Mick Kearns is hoping for a recall.

Kearns, bought from Walsall two years ago by the Molineux men as cover for first choice Paul Bradshaw, lost his Eire place.

But an injury to Bradshaw meant that Kearns was thrown into Wolves' late fight to avoid relegation. And the big Irishman was superb.

Kearns said: "I have never given up hope of making the first team at Molineux and neither have I given up hope of an international recall. I just hope Eoin Hand hasn't forgotten me."

A couple of softies!



JOE JORDAN, Manchester United's Scotland international striker, and Graeme Souness, of Liverpool and Scotland, can be melted despite their "hardman" images. They have met their match in the tiny shapes of Thomas, third child of Joe and his wife Judith, and Fraser Scott, son of Danielle and the Liverpool midfielder star, with Chantelle, their other child, to complete a family picture.



THE TANK, as he was known in his playing days, has gone. But even without Ron Atkinson, West Brom will still be a force to be reckoned with next season.

"We're not far behind the top teams," says England Under-21 midfielder Remi Moses. "It's a big step from being a team challenging for honours, as we've been, to one that actually wins something. Yet I believe we have the players for that extra push."

"Ron Atkinson did a tremendous job here. We must forget all that now and look forward. Good luck to United. They have a manager who inspires confidence by his extrovert nature and bubbling personality."

"I'll always be grateful to him. He gave me my chance and kept me in the team even when I was having a sticky patch."

"We know we're good enough to win something and that will give us the belief in ourselves that the Liverpools and Ipswichs have."

Why McIlroy quit tour

BOTH Manchester clubs, City and United, will be having second thoughts about undertaking any more end-of-season tours after their recent disastrous experiences.

Indeed City manager John Bond said: "I will never again send a team to play friendly fixtures in Spain," after incidents in a four-team tournament when Dennis Tueart was sent-off and Tommy Hutchison was so badly injured it was at first feared he'd broken a leg.

But if City had their problems, it was even worse for United when three internationals virtually walked out on their tour to the Far East.

As the players were gathering at the airport, Sammy McIlroy, Mike Thomas and Jimmy Nicholl all decided, at the last minute, they'd rather stay at home . . . which they did.

Said McIlroy, who'd only minutes earlier returned home from international duty: "As a contracted player I realise I've done wrong in putting my family first . . . but I saw them for just a few minutes at Manchester Airport, between trips, and with my eight-year-old son Sammy suffering from asthma I wondered how my wife would cope. So, as the plane was about to take off, I unfastened my seatbelt and went home."

WELSHMAN DOES OVERTIME

WATFORD's Kenny Jackett (right), 19, has volunteered for summer training to improve his ball skills.

Welsh team manager Mike England has a high regard for the Under-21 international. He says: "I see him as a midfielder or left-back. He's a very intelligent user of the ball and has great vision for a boy so young."

THE Sporting International Travel Club, of 29 Maddox Street, London W1, has been formed especially for those who appreciate and support British Sportsmen and women, whether competing in this country or overseas.



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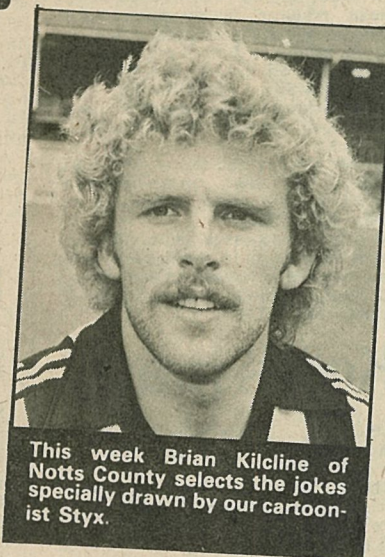
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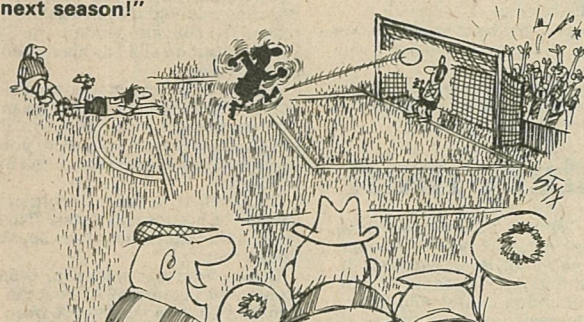
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"He's finally granted my transfer request — I'm playing in hell next season!"



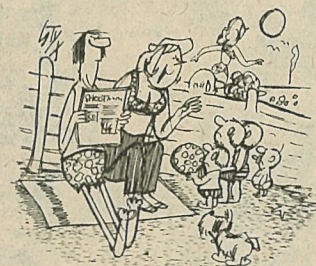
This week Brian Kilcline of Notts County selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



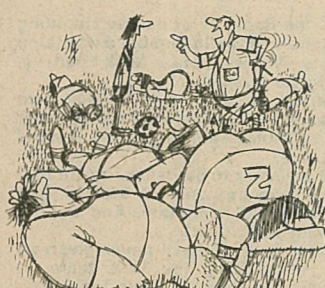
"Now that's what I call persistence — brought down on the edge of the box but his shadow gets up and scores."



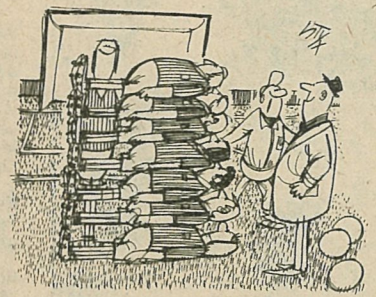
"Remember what's at stake, son . . . the honour of the club . . . the hopes of the fans . . . the threat of relegation . . . the queue at the job centre."



"No, daddy can't play football — you know he gets cramp."



"Your game is far too physical."



"But no ref is going to allow a wall like that."

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'WHY UNITED DROPPED ME'

WHILE Manchester United were in the Far East sweltering in temperatures of 100 degrees, I was relaxing in my holiday cottage in South Wales.

I wasn't injured, nor was there anything sinister in asking to be dropped from the touring party.

Quite simply I felt I needed a complete break from football to ensure I'm 100 per cent prepared physically and mentally for the new season.

Jack Crompton, who was in charge of the team, agreed to release me especially as United were to play only two games instead of the scheduled half dozen.

Because the club didn't receive the necessary financial guarantees from Hong Kong the tour began and ended in Malaysia.

Apart from spending as much time as possible with Yvonne and our daughter Hayley in South Wales I don't intend doing much this summer.

I was invited to compete in BBC TV's popular 'Superstars' but turned it down. I could also have taken part in 'Superteams' where footballers test their skills against

top athletes.

Two very lucrative offers of coaching trips to Australia and Norway tempted me for a while, but Yvonne and I decided to give them a miss.

The only exercise I'm going to get is playing golf. No tournaments, just a few holes with Paddy Roche, Arthur Albiston, Tony Dunne and Sir Matt Busby's son, Sandy, at my club North Enden.

I might do a few stretching exercises later in the month and have a few runs along the beach just to keep my muscles supple.

Main topic of conversation wherever I've gone this close season is, of course, our new manager Ron Atkinson. Up to the time of writing I haven't yet met him.

But as expected he quickly made changes at Old Trafford, bringing in his assistant at West Brom Mick Brown and reserve coach Brian Whitehouse.

He'll also probably want to spend

in the transfer market to strengthen the first team squad if there's any cash available.

No prizes for guessing two players he'd like to have at United are England and Albion stars Peter Barnes and Bryan Robson.

Ron Atkinson encourages the flamboyant and adventurous style of Barnes, who has been unsettled at The Hawthorns for some time.

Development

He knows all about Bryan Robson after playing a great part in his development from youngster to established England international.

The next few months at Old Trafford are going to be exciting... and stimulating.

I spoke to my old boss Dave Sexton on the phone recently to wish him well in his new job at Coventry and to say how sorry I was to see him leave United.

He seemed cheerful and has

recovered from the shock of his dismissal. I was chatting to Dave when he announced Coventry's first match of the new season was at home to Manchester United.

I thought he was joking at first. Amazing how these coincidences occur in football.

Naturally Dave's looking forward to the game. Personally, it's a horrible way to kick off the new campaign.

I hate playing at Coventry at the best of times because it's not a particularly happy hunting ground for me or United. Now it will be twice as difficult to get a good result.

Apart from going to Coventry, United couldn't have a tougher start to the 1981-82 season.

First home game is against Nottingham Forest, then we meet UEFA Cup holders Ipswich at Old Trafford before travelling to play Champions Aston Villa.

Four games that will prove if United are to be serious title challengers. I'm confident we'll pass the test.

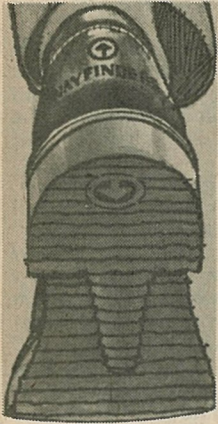
Gordon McQueen

New manager Ron Atkinson with United chairman Martin Edwards (right). Bryan Robson in action against United (below). Now he could be a target for Atkinson.

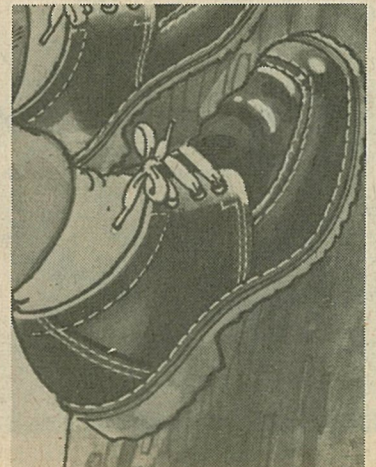
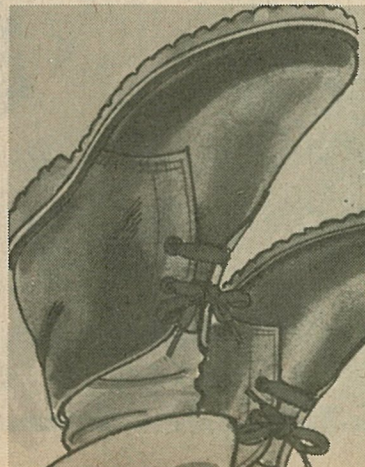
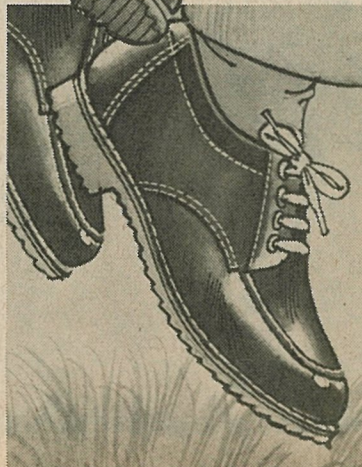
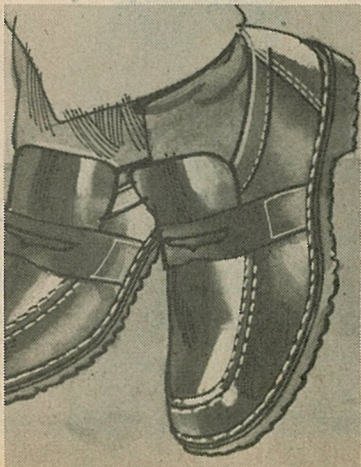
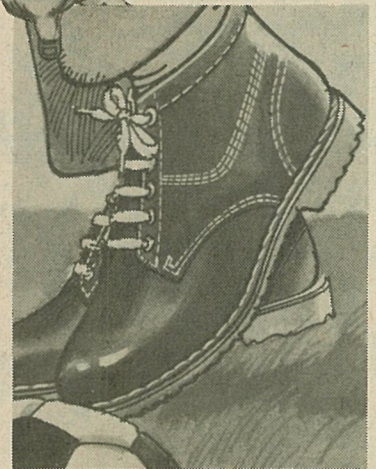
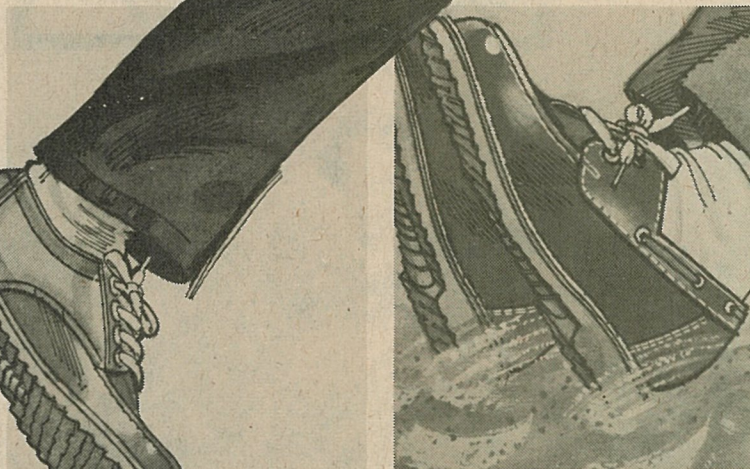


New WAYFINDERS

The Action Supershoe



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SINCE the first day Tony Woodcock set foot in Cologne there have been whispers that he was leaving West Germany.

His form has been the subject of much discussion, especially as Cologne have not advanced over the past two seasons.

As the England striker eased himself back into pre-season training, he said: "A few months ago I was uncertain whether I would kick-off next season with Cologne. Now, it's easier to talk. I'm sure I'll still be in West Germany..."

The trouble arose from Cologne's playing system. "The way I was being asked to play simply didn't suit me," says Woodcock. "There comes a point when you have to sit down and carefully think things out. I asked myself

didn't talk about a move. I just wanted to get things on the field sorted out.

"For a long time I'd sacrificed personal satisfaction for the good of the team. They said that with the players available the way they were playing was the best."

Woodcock is confident that some new faces and a summer's rest will see improvement from both parties.

In fact, Cologne have been busy in the transfer market. Dieter Muller has gone to VfB Stuttgart and he has been replaced by the national team's centre-forward Klaus Fischer. Two new midfielders have also been signed: Klaus Allofs and the Belgian Rene van Der Eycken.

Woodcock was glad to be on

England's ill-fated summer tour, even if he didn't play.

"It was vital I had a rest from Cologne, whatever the circumstances. I wanted to let things calm down. The board have offered me a new contract. They want me to sign for as long as possible.

"My present contract has one more year to run. I decided to wait until then and see how things are."

He'll be 27 then and whatever he does, Woodcock hopes to return to England one day.

"I'm sure I will. I can't say when — next year or in two or three years — but I hope to come back. Only then will I really be able to

assess how I've progressed.

"I think I've developed, even if I'd have obviously liked to have won something with Cologne. I can see the good and bad points in both English and German soccer.

"I sometimes think the German way of play lacks urgency. Then when I join up with the England squad I wish they'd slow things down.

"The German public is very puzzled how English clubs can do so well in Europe, yet not achieve the same level of success internationally.

"I'm certain England has the players, even if West Germany are one of the best sides in the world. I wonder whether England are always fighting against a system they can't beat.

"The Germans close down the League before an international so there are no injury worries and everyone concerned can concentrate on the match.

"It's also a help to the Germany coach Jupp Derwall that just about every Bundesliga club plays the same system."

Woodcock had four weeks holiday before reporting back for pre-season training.

IT'S just over 18 months since Tony Woodcock left Nottingham Forest for Cologne. It's been a slightly disappointing season and a half for the England striker in the West German Bundesliga. Cologne haven't won anything and were beaten by Ipswich Town in the UEFA Cup Semi-Finals. Rumours began to circulate that Woodcock was on his way back to England, or possibly to Italy. Here he talks about his future.

'I'm staying with Cologne'

TONY WOODCOCK

whether the team were good for me, or whether I was good for the team.

"We play with an orthodox right winger and a centre-forward who stays in the middle. I found myself in no man's land. I prefer playing in a two-forwards only formation. I found myself with nowhere to go, being stuck out on the left and having to go deep in midfield to look for the ball.

"This was no good for me and I felt I wasn't giving as much to the team as I could."

Woodcock had a showdown meeting with Cologne boss Rinus Michels and the club's management.

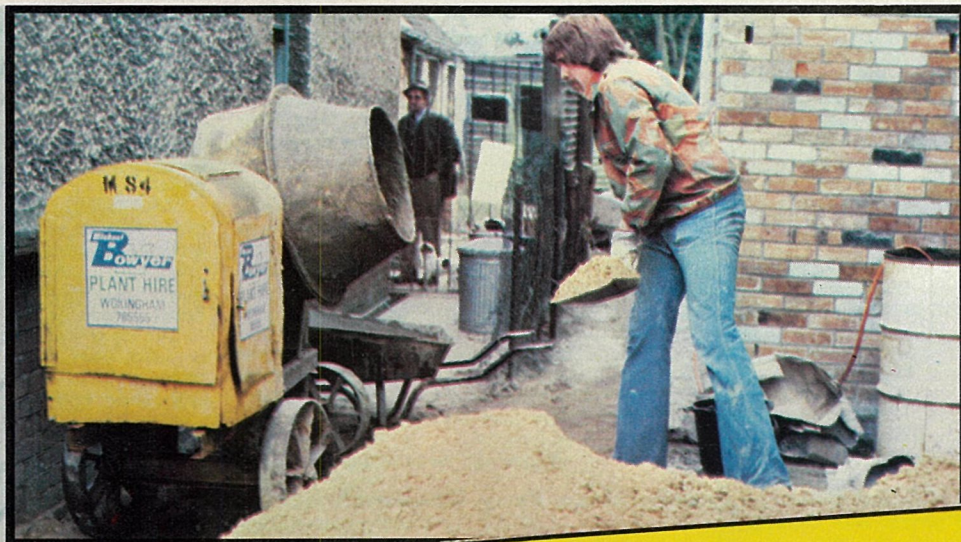
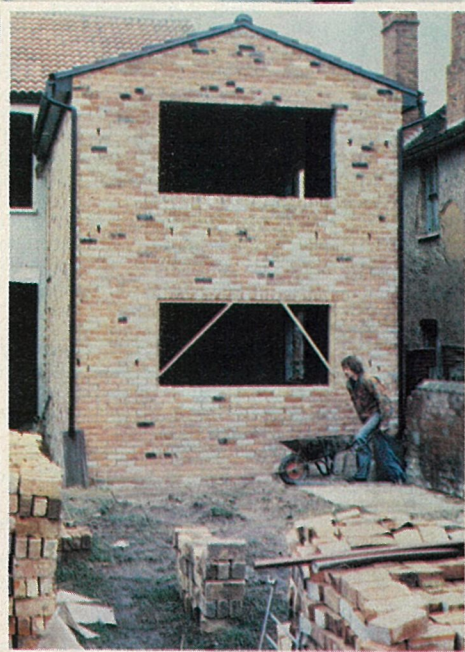
"They never even hinted they were willing to let me go and I

Dieter Muller (extreme left) has been transferred from Cologne to Stuttgart.



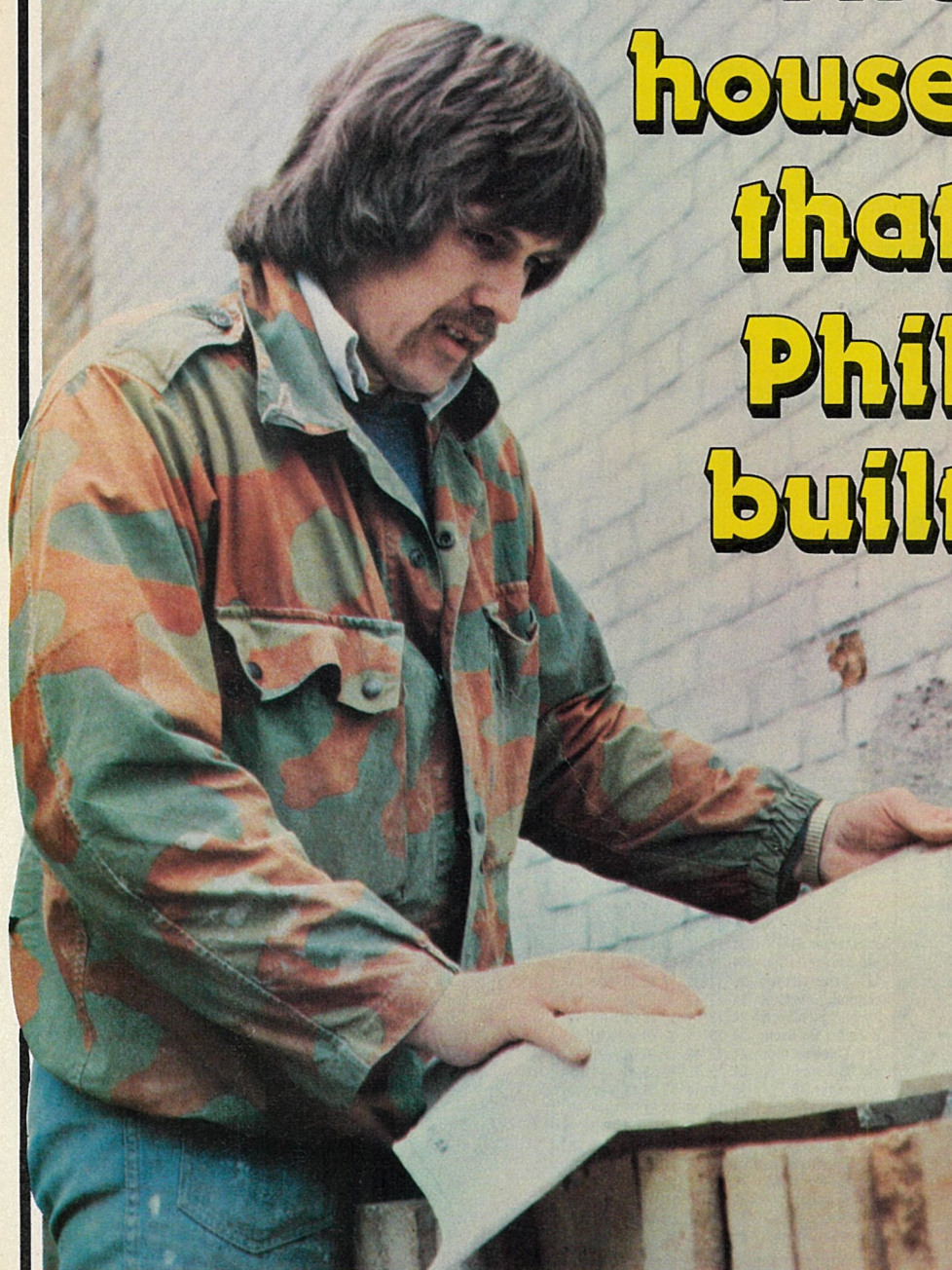
FINAL BUNDESLIGA TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Bayern Munich	34	22	9	3	89:41	+48	53	
Hamburger SV	34	21	7	6	73:43	+30	49	
VfB Stuttgart	34	19	8	7	70:44	+26	46	
1.FC Kaiserslautern	34	17	10	7	60:36	+24	44	
Eintracht Frankfurt	34	13	12	9	61:57	+4	38	
Mönchengladbach	34	15	7	12	68:64	+4	37	
Borussia Dortmund	34	13	9	12	69:59	+10	35	
1.FC Cologne	34	12	10	12	54:55	-1	34	
VfL Bochum	34	9	15	10	53:45	+8	33	
Karlsruher SC	34	9	14	11	56:63	-7	32	
Bayer Leverkusen	34	10	10	14	52:53	-1	30	
MSV Duisburg	34	10	9	15	45:58	-13	29	
Fortuna Düsseldorf	34	10	8	16	57:64	-7	28	
1.FC Nürnberg	34	11	6	17	47:57	-10	28	
Arminia Bielefeld	34	10	6	18	46:65	-19	26	
1860 Munich	34	9	7	18	49:67	-18	25	
FC Schalke 04	34	8	7	19	43:88	-45	23	
Bayer Uerdingen	34	8	6	20	47:79	-32	22	



The house that Phil built

WEST HAM and England goalkeeper Phil Parkes has a pair of the safest hands in the game. But he has other talents, as these exclusive photographs prove. Phil is converting an old house in his home town of Wokingham, Berkshire, into two flats... with a little help from neighbour Gordon Hill (below) who was recently transferred from Q.P.R. to Montreal Manic.





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SIAN PHILLIPS FLORA ROBSON and LAURENCE OLIVIER as Zeus

Creator of Special Visual Effects RAY HARRYHAUSEN Written by BEVERLEY CROSS Produced by CHARLES H. SCHNEER and RAY HARRYHAUSEN Directed by DESMOND DAVIS

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your local
cinema this
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Look out for the **SMITH'S SNACKS** CLASH OF THE TITANS £10,000 Holiday Competition.

★ Story of a star ★ 1

GLENN THE GREAT!



1. Glenn Hoddle first played for Spurs in 1976, and almost from the start of his League career it was clear that he had the necessary skill to go right to the top.

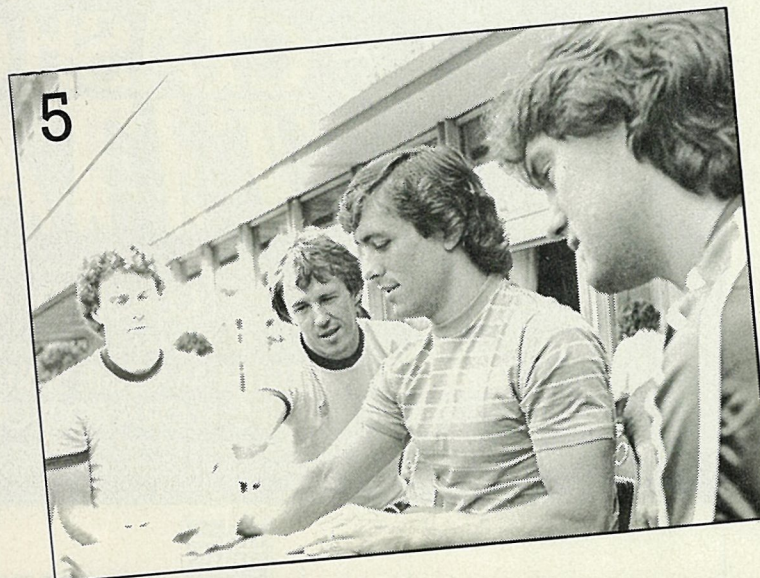
2. It didn't take long for Glenn to gain a regular place in the England Under-21 team, where he scored vital goals including this header in the 2-1 defeat of Denmark in Copenhagen in September, 1978.

3. Full England honours were sure to follow, and Glenn marked his

debut for the senior team with a spectacular goal against Bulgaria at Wembley in November, 1979.

4. He played a vital role in Spurs' success in last season's F.A. Cup Final, hitting the shot which earned his side a replay against Manchester City.

5. Now a familiar face in the England squad, here we see Glenn relaxing in Budapest with teammates Tony Woodcock, Phil Neal and Kenny Sansom.



ONE of my proudest — and saddest — moments in soccer came in Barcelona's magnificent Nou Camp stadium in 1972.

That was the setting and the date when Rangers won the European Cup-Winners' Cup beating Soviet cracks Moscow Dynamo 3-2 in a dramatic Final. It hardly seems almost a decade ago that we won that trophy while I was only 18 at the time.

I played at centre-back that evening and enjoyed myself immensely in the most important game of my young career. Yet there was still sadness on that glorious night.

I couldn't help feeling sympathy for Colin Jackson who had picked up an injury in training just before the Final and had to watch the game from the sidelines.

There and then I realised how cruel football could be. Big Colin — or 'Bomber' as we prefer to call him — had been outstanding in our Semi-Final triumph over Bayern Munich.



The job he did on the great Gerd Muller had to be seen to be believed. Honestly, I don't think Muller even had a shot at Peter McCloy in 180 minutes of football, home and away.

Yet, as ill fortune would have it, Colin had to sit out on what would have been the greatest occasion of his trophy-laden career.

Europe is a place where memories are made never to be forgotten. If I'm still a Rangers player next season — and that may be considered a huge 'if' in many quarters — then I hope I am involved once again on the European scene.

It was murder last season without the glamour of Europe to look forward to. I really missed that special atmosphere, especially since we had played superb teams such as Juventus, PSV Eindhoven, Cologne, Fortuna Dusseldorf and Valencia in the previous two years of European business.

One team I would like to see Rangers getting a crack at next season is West Germany's Eintracht Frankfurt . . . we've got a very old score to settle with them.

I remember being a kid in Dundee when I was told that this German team had taken six goals off Rangers home and away. Twelve goals in two games? It was impossible!

It really made me wonder just how good those West Germans were. Can you imagine my surprise



Willie Johnston (dark shirt) heads Rangers ahead in the 1972 Cup-Winners' Cup Final against Moscow Dynamo.

when Real Madrid beat them 7-3 in that never-to-be-forgotten European Cup Final at Hampden in 1960.

The memory of Eintracht sends shudders down the spine of everyone at Ibrox . . . even the young players who weren't born when those games were played!

Rangers have met a fair amount of West German teams in the past, but I was told the other day that our great rivals Celtic have never been drawn against West German opponents in a European tourney. Very strange, that.

In fact, if my memory serves me correctly, Celtic have only played Bayern Munich and Schalke in friendlies in the past 15 years!

Again, if my memory banks are in working order, Celtic played Bayern in America in '66 and drew 2-2 and Jock Stein, then the Parkhead manager at the time, said he was fairly impressed by the Bayern-right-back. His name? Gerd Muller, who, believe it or not, started his career as a number two.

Yes, I've said it before and I'll undoubtedly say it again, soccer is a very strange game.

I'm 27 at the moment and I know I've got an awful lot to offer this game. There was hardly a stampede for my signature when I was put on the transfer list, but this doesn't worry me at all.

I've already told SHOOT readers I am in no hurry to leave Ibrox. I am a professional footballer and I will

continue to do my best for the club.

There are no personal vendettas at Ibrox although I have heard otherwise. Football is a great breeding ground for totally unfounded rumours and I don't want to get involved in undignifying, stupid stories with a reply.

The future, as I see it, will be an enormous challenge, but that's the way I like it. The gaffer, John Greig, bought Irish international John McClelland from Mansfield during the close season for £90,000 and I know he can play in defence or in the midfield.

That's great for Rangers. His versatility will be invaluable. I don't

'no vendettas' at Rangers'

see it being a bad thing for Derek Johnstone, either.

He may be able to play in positions I, too, can occupy, but the club is always bigger than the individual and if John can do a better job than me, and do it consistently, then he is the man who deserves the first team place. There can be no arguments. None at all.

Training

But I'm no quitter, mark my words. Next season just can't come quickly enough. In fact, I'll let you into a small secret . . . I've been training daily to keep myself in shape for the new term.

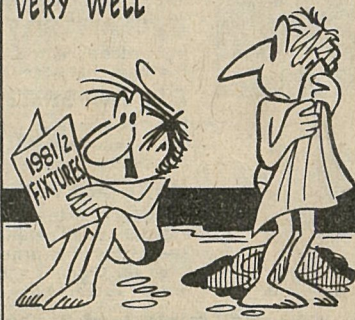
Finished? You must be joking! I may have faltered slightly for a variety of reasons, but I haven't come grinding to a halt. Cheers for now.

Derek Johnstone

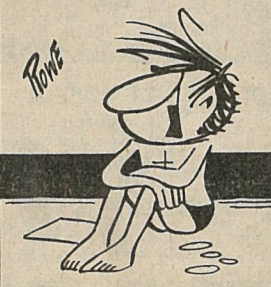
**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

NOBBY

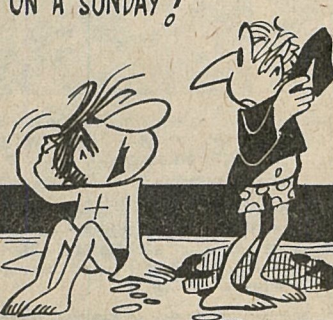
SUNDAY SOCCER IS ALL
VERY WELL



BUT THEY SHOULD MAKE
IT DOUBLE PAY



AFTER ALL, ONLY MUGS WORK
ON A SUNDAY!



MY MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD
ME NOT TO TALK TO
STRANGERS!



Campaign Cavalcade 1980-81

December/January

FRANCIS BACK WITH A GOAL

DECEMBER 1

Malcolm Allison, out of a job since being axed by Manchester City, bounces back at Crystal Palace, the club which fired him in 1976.

DECEMBER 2

Liverpool beat Birmingham 3-1 (below) and West Ham beat Spurs 1-0 to reach the League Cup Semi-Finals, but Coventry are held to 2-2 by Watford in another Quarter-Final.



DECEMBER 3

West Bromwich, unbeaten in their last 11 games, lose 2-1 as Manchester City also go through to the League Cup Semi-Finals.

DECEMBER 6

There's a familiar look about the top-spot in the First Division table — once again occupied by Liverpool after a 2-1 victory over Spurs. Below them, Villa go down 2-1 at Middlesbrough — while Ipswich are held to a 1-1 draw at Manchester City.



DECEMBER 9

Coventry convincingly beat earlier giantkillers Watford 5-0 in a League Cup Quarter-Final replay (above) and so set up a new club record. It's the first major Semi-Final they've ever reached in 97 years of trying.

DECEMBER 10

Ipswich are beaten 1-0 in Poland by Widzew Lodz — but comfortably move on in the UEFA Cup on a massive 5-1 aggregate.

DECEMBER 13

A Sammy Lee equaliser gives Liverpool a 1-1 draw at Ipswich, while Villa have a convincing 3-0 local derby win over Birmingham. F.A. Cup Third Round draw is made and Malcolm Allison is going back to Manchester City with

Palace for the New Year tie. But match of the round looks to be Ipswich v. Villa.

DECEMBER 15

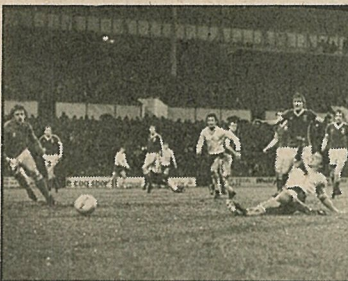
Non-League Altrincham put out Scunthorpe in an F.A. Cup replay — and are rewarded with a money-spinning tie at Anfield in the next round.

DECEMBER 16

Q.P.R. manager Terry Venables goes back to his old club for reinforcements and picks up Mike Flanagan, John Burridge, and Terry Fenwick.

DECEMBER 17

Trevor Francis is back in the big-time after a seven-month injury lay-off, and sparkles in the European Super Cup against Valencia. But the Spaniards beat Forest 1-0 in the second-leg and lift the trophy on the away-goals rule. Spurs slam Ipswich 5-3 in the First Division (below).



DECEMBER 20

Now Francis, British soccer's first million-pound man, signals his welcome return with his first League goal of the season as Forest beat Sunderland 3-1 (right). Liverpool and Ipswich win again, but second-placed Villa go down to lowly Brighton. This is the fifth Christmas in the last eight that

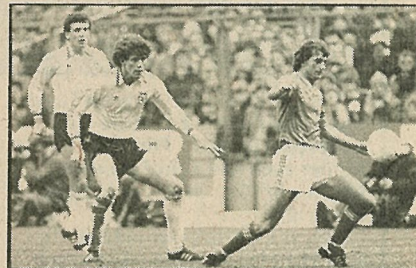
Liverpool have topped the table — and four of those they've gone on to take the League title!

DECEMBER 26

Ray Clemence joins that exclusive band of players with 500 League games to their credit — and celebrates with a clean-sheet as Liverpool pick up a valuable point at Old Trafford. 57,073 watch it — and, despite the lack of public transport, Boxing Day crowds are still a bit up on last year. Villa and Ipswich keep up the pressure on Liverpool with victories — while revitalised Manchester City crack Everton's unbeaten home record. But six players get cards — red, not Christmas — as several games get a bit unseasonably "niggly".

DECEMBER 27

Last Saturday of 1980 — and Kevin Keegan, out for six weeks with a hamstring injury, comes back with a super goal as Southampton crush Leicester 4-0. But Milija Aleksic's injury jinx strikes again as the Tottenham 'keeper — 15 stitches in a leg wound — is stretchered off at Norwich. Trevor Francis hits the target again as Forest hold Villa to 2-2 — and Luton's Brian Stein makes it a happy Christmas with a hat-trick at Bristol Rovers to follow up his couple against Chelsea the previous day.



DECEMBER TABLE-TOPPERS

Div 1:
Liverpool (34 pts)
Aston Villa (34)
Ipswich (33)

Div 2:
West Ham (36)
Swansea (32)
Chelsea (30)

Div 3:
Charlton (38)
Barnsley (37)
Rotherham (35)

Div 4:
Southend (40)
Lincoln (38)
Mansfield (32)

DECEMBER TABLE-PROPPERS

Div 1:
Norwich (20)
Leicester (14)
Crystal Palace (13)

Div 2:
Oldham (19)
Bristol City (18)
Bristol Rovers (12)

Div 3:
Blackpool (20)
Carlisle (19)
Hull (15)

Div 4:
Port Vale (20)
Halifax (17)
Hereford (17)

ALL DUNDEE CUP FINAL

DECEMBER 1

Poor Partick Thistle get another knock-back for that vacant manager's job. This time Celtic assistant manager John Clark declines. He says — "I will always be a Celt..."

DECEMBER 4

At last! Partick Thistle chairman Miller Reid gets it right and Peter Cormack, still a player with Hibs, gets the job as Firhill boss. The ex-Liverpool star takes over at once.

DECEMBER 6

The first major trophy of the season is decided and in the all-Dundee Final, United retain the League Cup they won



the previous season: They beat Dundee 3-0 at a sell out, 24,000 capacity Dens Park (pictured above).

DECEMBER 8

The SFA, so often criticised, broaden their horizons by appointing a top West German coach, Karl-Heinz Heddergott, to their staff. First Division Dumbarton bid for Johan Cruyff.

DECEMBER 9

Cruyff suggests politely that Dumbarton don't sound like his type of club. Dunfermline sack their manager, Harry Melrose.

DECEMBER 11

Finally, it looks as if Hampden Park is doomed to close after Government

spending cuts halted a facelift operation at the eleventh hour.

DECEMBER 12

St Mirren chairman John Corson is axed and Gordon Faulds takes over.

DECEMBER 15

In a shock move Hibs ask Partick Thistle for compensation for Peter Cormack. They demand £19,000.

DECEMBER 17

In Scotland's World Cup group, Portugal beat Israel 3-0 in Lisbon.

DECEMBER 22

Veteran Aberdeen goalkeeper Bobby Clark turns down the chance of a transfer to Dundee.

DECEMBER 26

A Happy Christmas for St Mirren assistant manager Ricky McFarlane. The former physiotherapist who had been Jim Clunie's right hand man is named as team boss.

BOND'S BUBBLE BURSTS

JANUARY 3

The "Big Boys" come into the F.A. Cup — and a single Paul Mariner goal for Ipswich settles the match-of-the-round against Villa. But it's another blow for Malcolm Allison — and a boost for his successor at Main Road, John Bond — as Manchester City slam Palace 4-0. Enfield, who hang on 1-1 at Port Vale, are the only non-League left to go into Monday's draw.

JANUARY 5

The draw for the next round is made — and pairs Everton and Liverpool! And Manchester City catch Norwich — so that John Bond now has to meet the club (and son Kevin!) he left a few weeks ago.



JANUARY 6

The first batch of Cup replays sees a single Francis goal enable Forest to scrape through at Bolton — and giantkillers Enfield (above) put out Port Vale 3-0. Cup-holders West Ham, held at home by Wrexham on Saturday, still can't settle it after extra-time.

JANUARY 7

More replays — and this time Manchester United make no mistake at Brighton. And, despite injury problems, fast-improving Spurs eliminate Q.P.R. with a quite comfortable 3-1 scoreline.

JANUARY 10

Villa prove their upsurge is no flash in the pan as they deservedly



beat Liverpool 2-0 in a top-of-the-table battle. Ipswich beat Forest by the same score — their 34th unbeaten home game on the trot.

JANUARY 13

It's 12 years to the day since Bobby Robson became Ipswich manager, and his seemingly unstoppable team give him a welcome "birthday" present with a 5-1 rout of Birmingham.

JANUARY 14

A Ray Kennedy goal at Maine Road gives Liverpool a first-leg lead in the League Cup Semi-Final v. Man. City.

JANUARY 17

Villa win 2-1 at Coventry, but Ipswich's goalless draw at Everton sees the East Anglians still edging them off the table-top, if only on goal-difference. Liverpool, winning 1-0 at Norwich, are pushing both of them hard. It's tight at the top of the First and Third Divisions, but West Ham lead the Second by seven points, while Southend head the Fourth by five.

JANUARY 19

Holders West Ham settle their bid to keep the F.A. Cup, but not in the way they would have liked. A single Dixie McNeil goal is enough for Wrexham to go through in a much-postponed second replay.

England's first ground-sharing scheme looks on the cards when, after boardroom re-shuffles, Wimbledon provisionally agree to move in with Crystal Palace despite protests from the fans (above).

JANUARY 22

"Big Mal" may be off again! The Palace shake-up looks ominous for Allison — and Wimbledon manager Dario Gradi is tipped to take over at Selhurst.

JANUARY 24

Everton put favourites Liverpool out of the F.A. Cup 2-1 in the much-awaited derby. Bond's new club, Manchester City, wallop his former Norwich team 6-0 (below), but neighbouring United go out to a single Francis goal at Forest. Non-League Enfield score a last-minute equaliser at Barnsley to force a replay.



JANUARY 27

West Ham back themselves for a Wembley return in the League Cup, and their chances look good at Coventry when, with just 18 minutes to go, they're 2-0 up in their Semi-Final first-leg. But Coventry have other ideas — and grab a 3-2 lead to take to Upton Park for the second-leg. And Malcolm Allison is out in the cold again — rumours that he's to be succeeded by Dario Gradi proving all too true for Mal's liking.

JANUARY 28

Gallant little Enfield crack at last. In front of a 35,000 crowd at White Hart Lane, they succumb 3-0 to Barnsley in a Fourth Round F.A. Cup replay. But at least their brave fight has put quite a few thousand into the non-League's kitty. There's still a spot of giantkilling, though, when Third Division Exeter blast out Leicester 3-1.

JANUARY 31

Leicester, knocked-out of the Cup by Exeter in midweek, bounce back at Anfield, and win 2-1. It's Liverpool's first home defeat since 21st January, 1978 — 85 games ago. And, as Leicester also won 2-0 at home in August, that makes them the first team to achieve a "double" over Liverpool for six years!

JANUARY TABLE-TOPPERS

Div 1:
Ipswich (40 pts)
Aston Villa (40)
Liverpool (36)

Div 2:
West Ham (41)
Notts County (34)
Chelsea (33)

Div 3:
Charlton (43)
Barnsley (42)
Rotherham (41)

Div 4:
Southend (46)
Lincoln (43)
Mansfield (38)

JANUARY TABLE-PROPPERS

Div 1:
Norwich (20)
Leicester (16)
Crystal Palace (15)

Div 2:
Preston (22)
Bristol City (20)
Bristol Rovers (13)

Div 3:
Blackpool (22)
Carlisle (21)
Hull (17)

Div 4:
Halifax (21)
Hereford (21)
Port Vale (20)

RANGERS ROW

JANUARY 3

The Scottish Cup draw is made and brings an intriguing pairing — Celtic must travel to face Berwick Rangers, one time conquerors of Glasgow Rangers at their own Shielfield Park in the same competition.

JANUARY 6

Former top Scottish referee Tom 'Tiny' Wharton is appointed to the prestigious FIFA Referee Committee. Dave Sneddon is axed as Kilmarnock manager after serving the club as a player and coach before taking over the manager's job.

JANUARY 7

The Scottish League hand out £300,000 from the Pools' cash to be distributed among the 38 League clubs.

JANUARY 9

Hibs' Bertie Auld, strengthening his player pool in the quest for promotion, buys Celtic right-back Alan Sneddon (pictured) for £30,000.

JANUARY 15

Despite the decision in England the Scots' soccer bosses decide to stick with the red and yellow card system for orderings off and cautions.

JANUARY 17

Only one senior game goes on in Scotland — Hibs play at Easter Road, thanks to their recently installed under soil heating.



JANUARY 20

Israel ask for a Hampden date switch because of a Jewish remembrance day clash and the game is brought forward by 24 hours to convenience the visitors.

JANUARY 22

Celtic are fined £1,000 by the Scottish Football Association for the incident back in November when a fan attacked Aberdeen star Gordon Strachan during a Premier Division game. There are no arguments from Celtic boss Billy McNeill.

JANUARY 24

No Cup shock at Berwick where the little Rangers make a fight of it but go out to Celtic. The shock comes elsewhere — at Love Street where new St Mirren boss Ricky McFarlane watches his team lose 2-0 to First Division Dumbarton!

JANUARY 26

Rangers and Ayr United row over the First Division side's Steve Nicoll. Ayr boss Willie McLean claims that Rangers bid £200,000 — John Greig denies this and a bemused Nicoll stays at Somerset Park.

JANUARY 27

Jim Clunie, sacked last month as St Mirren manager is named the man to succeed Dave Sneddon as boss of Kilmarnock, battling to avoid relegation from the Premier Division.

JANUARY 28

At Clunie's old club, St Mirren, a new boardroom row looms. Rebel shareholders begin moves for a take over just a month after Gordon Faulds had taken power.



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WITH most fans still wondering about which British teams will reach next year's World Cup Finals, it's almost been forgotten that when we kick-off 1981/82 there will be a very significant change in the rules: in future, there will be three points awarded for a win.

I'm not sure if everyone has really thought about the implications of the change, agreed earlier this year by the Football League chairmen.

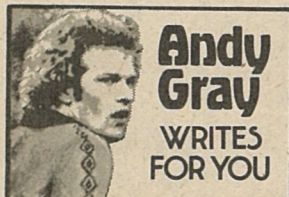
My own feelings are that the extra point will have no significant difference in the final placings. Go through last season's tables with the new system, and I doubt if many teams' fortunes would have changed. Villa would still have won the title; the same three clubs relegated.

The only effect I can see is that teams will shut up shop even more away from home. The visiting side takes an early lead... and with three points at stake it will do even more to defend the winning points



"Spurs won a tremendously exciting F.A. Cup Final replay against Manchester City."

'THREE POINTS- WHAT'S THE POINT?'



Andy Gray
WRITES
FOR YOU

than under the previous system.

This will apply right through the League. The more there is at stake, the more teams will do to protect their lead.

When the meeting was called there were various fears about the state of our game. I said at the time that things weren't as bad as some people made them out to be, and at the end of 1980/81 we could look back on some magnificent football.

Memorable

We had two attacking teams, Aston Villa and Ipswich, disputing the Championship; Spurs won a tremendously exciting F.A. Cup Final replay; Liverpool and West Ham provided a memorable League Cup replay; while Ipswich and Liverpool triumphed in Europe. Our game is far from perfect, but there isn't THAT much wrong with the domestic scene. Fans were still given good value last season.

What we should be looking more closely at is the number of games we play. If changes were made in this direction, rather than more points for a win, the game would improve.

Until the League is streamlined we will be penalised internationally.



"Villa and Ipswich proved success and entertainment can be combined."

England seemed jaded in some of their games towards the end of the season; so did Scotland. Players are so involved with their clubs — and the internationals are invariably drawn from successful clubs — that when they play for their country it's difficult to be at a peak both mentally and physically.

The popular theory is that less games means less revenue. I wonder. It just may work the other way. Supporters tend to pick and choose their games. If the First Division, for instance, were reduced to 16 or 18 clubs every game would be an event

... we'd get rid of the lesser matches and the end results may be no drop in revenue with more fans turning out, even if less often.

A ban on television isn't the answer. I believe fans will go to a game, even if it's on T.V. Villa/Ipswich could have been televised live, but there would still have been a full house at Villa Park. I don't think 20 minutes recorded highlights, possibly the next afternoon, stops fans from paying their money at the turnstiles.

I'm puzzled that there hasn't been a regionalisation of the Third and Fourth Divisions. It seems logical that reverting to the old Third Division North and South means

less travelling, more local derbies and undoubtedly improved attendances.

I had to smile at the gentleman's agreement not to fire managers in the season. All it means is that come May the managers' merry-go-round goes round faster than ever, with managers who probably know the worst is coming having to live with it for a few weeks.

Football is all about success. And entertainment. Fans will settle for success without entertainment, but, with only one or two exceptions, not entertainment without success. Villa, Ipswich and others proved that the two can be combined.

Advantages

A First Division of 18 clubs would be a step in the right direction. Whatever the short term problems in setting it up, the advantages in the long term would make the switch worthwhile.

The Second Division hasn't been able to provide three teams each season capable of making an impact. I think even West Ham will find life at the top a lot harder than their fans imagine next season.

Whether such changes will be made is unlikely. I just think it's a shame that when a major change was agreed it was one that almost certainly won't have any significant effect on our football.

Join me again in a fortnight.

Andy Gray

SCOTLAND'S TOP TEN

appearances and goalscorers for 1980-81

(Figures in brackets represent goals scored.)

AIRDRIE

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Martin	23	—	1
McGarr	3	2	—
Erwin	21(1)	2	—
Rodger	35(3)	2	1
Walker	34(2)	2	1
March	24(3)	2	1
G. Anderson	27(1)	2	1
McKeown	27	2	—
Clark	36(9)	2	1
Russell	19	2	1
Gordon	24(1)	2	1
McGuire	27(4)	2	1
Thomson	22(3)	1	—
McCulloch	17(2)	2	1
Hamilton	2	—	—
W. Anderson	21	—	—
McVeigh	4	—	—
Cairney	16	—	—
McCluskey	27	—	1
Gardner	9	—	—
Flood	13(3)	—	—
McClymont	1	—	—
McEwan	1	—	—
McCafferty	1	—	—
Davidson	1	—	—
Burnett	1	—	—

DUNDEE UNITED

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
McAlpine	36	10	7
Kirkwood	29(10)	6	7(2)
Stark	22	8	3
Phillips	29	7	7
Hegarty	33(3)	10(4)	7(2)
Narey	32	10(1)	7(1)
Bannon	34(8)	10(4)	7(1)
Sturrock	35(13)	10(7)	7(1)
Payne	22(2)	8(1)	2
Addison	13(1)	5(1)	2(1)
Milne	21(7)	4(2)	5
Ward	6	6(7)	—
Holt	24	3	6
Kopel	32	6	7
Reilly	1	—	—
Dodds	24(14)	6(2)	7(4)
Smith	1	1	1
Campbell	4	1	—
Pettigrew	19(6)	4(1)	2
Gibson	14(2)	—	—
Gough	3	—	—
Murray	1	—	—

MORTON

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Baines	36	2	6
Orr	33	2	6
Holmes	34	2	6
Anderson	4(1)	2	—
McLaughlin	34(1)	1	5
McLaren	8	2	—
Scott	2	—	—
Rooney	36(5)	2	6(2)
Hutchison	17(3)	2(1)	1
Tolmie	34(5)	2	5(2)
Ritchie	32(8)	2(1)	6(2)
McNeil	26(4)	1	5(1)
Thomson	29(2)	2	5(4)
Craig	1	—	—
Wilkie	6	1	—
Cochrane	24(2)	—	2
Hayes	30	—	6
Mauchlen	1	—	—
Busby	26(5)	—	4
McNab	5	—	—
Bryce	2	—	1
Marr	7	—	4
Houston	8	—	3
Hughes	1	—	—
Docherty	1	—	—



Rangers' Colin McAdam heads for goal against Partick.

RANGERS

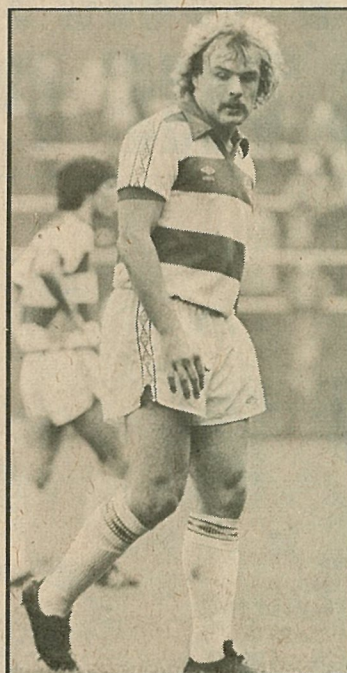
	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
McCloy	26	4	4
Jardine	32(3)	4	6
A. Forsyth	1	—	—
T. Forsyth	22	4	4
Jackson	29	4	5(1)
Bett	34(4)	4	7(1)
Cooper	25(3)	4	5(1)
Russell	28(6)	1	5(3)
McAdam	32(12)	4(5)	5(4)
Redford	35(9)	4	7(3)
McDonald	30(11)	3	5(3)
Johnston	24(1)	4	6
Miller	25(2)	4(1)	4
Johnstone	27(5)	3(1)	4(2)
McLean	27	4	3
Stevens	9	1	4(2)
Dawson	22(2)	—	7
McKay	6	—	—
Clark	1	—	—
Stewart	10	—	2

ABERDEEN

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Leighton	35	3	2
Kennedy	30	4(1)	1
McMaster	10(2)	2	—
Watson	30(1)	4(2)	2
McLeish	32(3)	3	2
Miller	33(1)	4	1
Strachan	19(6)	4(1)	—
Hewitt	21(2)	1(1)	1
McGhee	36(15)	3(3)	2(1)
Jarvie	23(5)	3(2)	1(1)
Scanlon	34(6)	3	1
Cowan	5(1)	3	—
Considine	12(1)	—	2
Bell	17(1)	4(1)	2
Rougvie	27(3)	3	1
Hamilton	8	—	—
Gardner	2	1	—
McCall	19(10)	—	2
De Clerck	1	1(1)	—
Cooper	2	—	—
Dorman	2	—	—
Davidson	4	1	—
Angus	19(1)	—	2
Harrow	10(1)	—	1
Simpson	16(2)	—	—
Harper	1	—	—

HEARTS

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Brough	34	4	2
Robinson	19	4	—
Denny	18	1	—
F. Liddell	24(1)	5	2
Kidd	25(1)	3	2
Conn	17(5)	3(3)	—
McDonald	29(3)	4(1)	2(1)
O'Connor	16(6)	3(3)	—
C. Robertson	10	3(4)	—
M. Robertson	10	3(1)	—
Gibson	32(4)	3	2
Fraser	1	—	—
Jefferies	13	4	—
Boyd	5	3	—
Bowman	17(1)	4(1)	1
Docherty	1	—	—
More	22	—	2
Shields	30	1	2
McVie	12	—	—
Westwater	2	—	—
Masterton	11	—	—
White	2	1	—
McKay	12	—	—
Hamilton	12	—	—
O'Brien	15(2)	—	2
Maxwell	1(1)	—	—
Hamill	21	—	1
McShane	4(1)	—	1
G. Liddell	14(2)	—	—



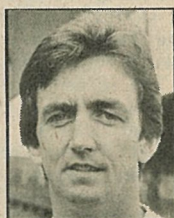
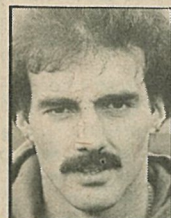
Morton skipper Davie Hayes.

KILMARNOCK

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
McCulloch	34	5	3
McLean	19(1)	5	3
Robertson	19	5	—
Mauchlen	31(3)	6	1
Clarke	36	6(1)	3
McDicken	34(1)	6	3
Houston	14(1)	2	—
Gibson	12	6	2
Street	13(2)	4	1
Cairney	5	1	—
Cramond	18(2)	3(2)	—
Docherty	12(2)	1	1
Bourke	27(4)	5	3
Maxwell	15	4	1
McBride	22(1)	3(1)	2
Morrison	1	1	—
Armstrong	22(1)	1	3
McCreadie	5(1)	2	—
Brown	9	1	—
J. Clark	14	—	3
Cockburn	25	1	3
J. Wilson	6	—	—
Hughes	13(3)	—	1(1)
Black	1	—	—
A. Wilson	7	—	—
McLurg	3	—	—
Eadie	4(1)	—	—
Robin	9	—	—
Bryce	8	—	2

PARTICK THISTLE

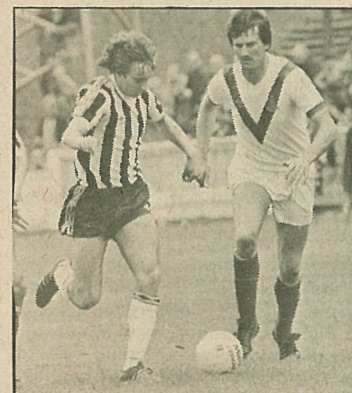
	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Rough	33	6	3
Doyle	24	5	2
Whittaker	34(1)	6	3(1)
Jardine	25(1)	6	3
Welsh	27	6	—
Campbell	34	5	2
Park	32(4)	6	1
Gibson	8(2)	4(2)	—
O'Hara	32(7)	6(2)	3(1)
Higgins	21(7)	5(2)	—
Watson	33(5)	6(1)	3
Murray	6	2	—
McLeod	2	1	—
McDonald	23(1)	1	3
Lapsley	23	2	2
Clark	25(2)	1	3(4)
Torrance	9	—	—
Marr	4	1	—
Anderson	22	—	—
Sweeney	5	—	—
McKinnon	8	—	2
McNab	2	—	—



Aberdeen's Willie Miller and Dom Sullivan of Celtic.

CELTIC

	League	Lg Cup	Sc Cup
Bonnar	36	8	5
Sneddon	33	6	—
McGrain	33	8	3
Aitken	35(4)	8	5
McAdam	35(4)	8	5
Conroy	15	4	4(1)
Provan	33(7)	7(1)	5
Sullivan	30(3)	6(1)	5
McGarvey	33(23)	6(2)	4(1)
McLeod	18(8)	3	3(1)
McCluskey	22(10)	5	2(1)
Burns	33(4)	7(5)	5(2)
Nicholas	29(16)	7(6)	5(3)
Weir	11(1)	2	1
Doyle	5	5(1)	2
McDonald	14(2)	6(1)	—
Reid	22	5	2



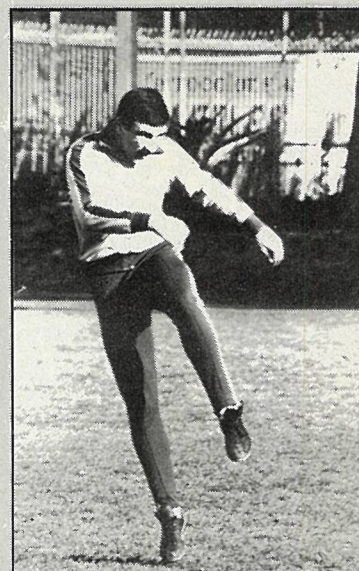
St Mirren's Billy Abercrombie (stripes) takes on the Airdrie defence.

Barcelona's wasted millions

LOGICALLY, if you've got money, you tend to spend it. But exactly how you spend it is a different matter. And Europe's richest club, Barcelona, must come out top of the dubious-spending League with a long succession of signings who've drifted in and out of the club in the next-to-no-time without even beginning to justify their transfer fees.

Just look at the fate of their 31 signings made in the last five years:

Player	Fee Paid	Fate
1976-77 SIGNINGS		
Amarillo	£140,000	Sold to Español after 28 appearances
Ramos	£250,000	Continues, but only 95 games in 5 years
Martinez	—	Transfer listed
Botella	—	Sold to Elche after 1 appearance
Olmo	—	Continues in first team
1977-78 SIGNINGS		
Juanjo	£175,000	Sold to Huelva after 13 appearances
Llanguolster	—	Listed. Never played in first team
Zuviria	£170,000	Continues in first team
Vila	—	Loaned to Sabadell after 2 appearances
Esteban	£170,000	Reserve
Bio	£150,000	Sold to Español after 4 appearances
1978-79 SIGNINGS		
Pérez Contreras	—	Loaned & listed without playing in first team
Manolo	—	Reserve; 5 games in 3 years
Tarrés	£170,000	Loaned & listed. 3 appearances
Félix	£170,000	Loaned & listed. 4 appearances
Carrasco	—	Listed
Krankl (right)	£475,000	Sacked twice in 27 months and 51 games
Ramirez	£75,000	Reserve; 18 games in 3 years
1979-80 SIGNINGS		
Amigó	£175,000	Loaned & listed. 5 appearances
Canito	£300,000	Returned to Español after 21 games
Serrat	—	Sold after 21 appearances
Landaburu	£105,000	Continues in squad
Estella	—	Continues in squad
Rubio	£175,000	Listed after 18 games, refuses to leave
Simonsen	£550,000	Continues in first team
Roberto	£450,000	Returned to Vasco da Gama after 10 weeks
1980-81 SIGNINGS		
Amador	£100,000	Listed after 3 games. Refuses to leave
Zunzunegui	£45,000	Loaned & listed without playing
Alesanco	£650,000	Continues in first team
Quini	£515,000	Continues in first team
Schuster	£1,055,000	Continues in first team



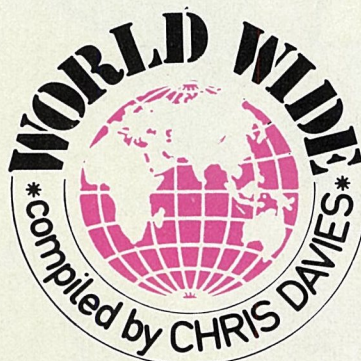
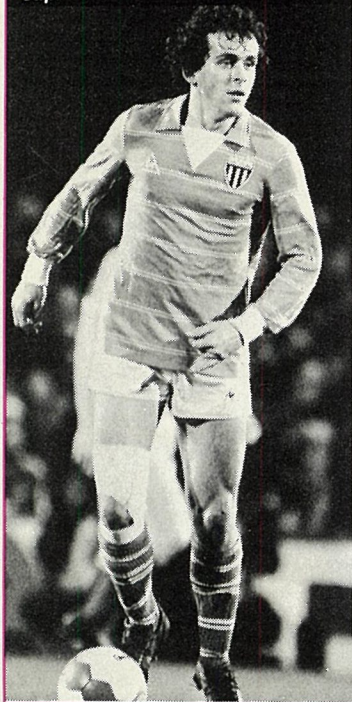
What's more, Barcelona have already spent £1,300,000 on signing goalkeeper Urruti, defender Gerardo, midfielder Victor and winger Morán for next season, so even more heads are likely to fall!

PRINCE PAYS

AS MONACO, fourth in the French First Division, have earned a place in the U.E.F.A. Cup next season. In their last home game, a 2-1 win over Nîmes, they were watched by only 1,459 spectators. Fortunately for the club, Prince Rainier, up at the Palace, picks up the tabs to pay the players, like Swiss international star Umberto Barberis and the Argentinian Victor Trossero.

Platini stays

FRANCE'S Number One footballer Michel Platini has put an end to speculation about his future by signing a new contract with St. Etienne. But his new arrangement with the French Champions is for just one more year, which means Platini, 26 this month, could be on the move after next year's World Cup.



WHO'S SORRY NOW?

THE Indonesia F.A. have protested to F.I.F.A. about inadequate refereeing in their World Cup game against New Zealand in which they crashed 0-5 in Auckland.

What displeased the Indonesians came in the 59th minute when Grant Turner got the first of his three goals. The Indonesians protested so violently he was offside that two of them, Pattinasarany and Nurdiansyah, were sent-off.

The most curious feature of it all was that the Indonesians specially asked F.I.F.A. for the Portuguese referee Oliva Garcia who so displeased them.

BAYERN MUNICH have signed as an amateur, 17-year-old Michael Rummenigge, the younger brother of their forward star Karl-Heinz. Michael will play next season in Bayern's youth team in a local League in Bavaria.

Willi's record

THE record of former Bayern Munich goalkeeper Sepp Maier, 473 Bundesliga matches, has been broken by Willi Neuberger of Eintracht Frankfurt. The 35-year-old defender, who can play anywhere at the back, earned two full caps in his younger days and began his record run in 1966 with a five year stint with Borussia Dortmund.

His 474 Bundesliga games were played for Borussia, Werder Bremen, Wuppertal SV and since 1974 with Frankfurt.



News flashes

● Roberto Rivelino has completed his three-year contract in Saudi Arabia and would like to return to Rio de Janeiro. But the Saudis, with petrol money to burn, have offered him an increase on his £250,000 a year salary to £300,000 and no one in Brazil can afford anything like that, so Roberto re-signed for two more years.

● Joao Havelange, President of F.I.F.A. told Brazilian journalists at a Press conference that he was 99 per cent sure that

Brazil would stage the 1986 World Cup. He had been told by the Colombian F.A. that their government would not pay for the improvements F.I.F.A. demanded and Brazil would therefore be the first country to stage the World Cup twice, and having achieved that for his country Havelange would probably resign his F.I.F.A. post.

● The Yugoslav F.A. has introduced a new rule for their F.A. Cup competition. The Final will always be staged in Belgrade unless one of the

Finalists is a Belgian club. In that event the F.A. will name a suitable neutral ground.

● Belgian Champions RSC Anderlecht finished 11 points ahead of second club KSC Lokeren and 15 ahead of their arch enemies Standard Liege. Bossed by the Yugoslav 'magician' Tomislav Ivic, Anderlecht averaged 24,000 for their home League games — an increase of 5,000 per game over the previous season.

● Bulgaria's 4-0 home win over Finland in a World Cup game was watched by only 10,000.

Lorant dies

ONLY 58-years-old, Gyula Lorant, centre-back in the great Hungarian team that beat England 6-3 at Wembley in 1953, collapsed from a heart attack and died in Greece, watching his club PAOK Salonika against Champions Olympiakos.

Capped 56 times for Hungary, he defected to West Germany after hanging up his boots, qualified at the Cologne Sportschool in the 60's and had spells in charge of eight Bundesliga clubs.

Before joining PAOK he was boss of Bayern Munich until being forced out by a players revolution that left his Hungarian assistant, Pal Csernai, to take over and win two consecutive League titles in 1980 and 1981.

IN the Final of the Czech F.A. Cup, Dukla Prague beat Dukla Banska Bystrica 4-1 after being a goal down at the interval. In the second half, internationals Ladislav Vizek and Zdenek Nehoda each scored two goals.

THEY DID IT!

A FEW months ago I published details of two regional Spanish clubs who have lost every game 1-0. I wondered whether they could go through an entire season losing every game by the odd goal.

Amazingly, they have. Can any overseas readers send me details of teams with a similarly bad, or, perhaps, even worse record?

S. Alio	34	5	1	28	21
Cazorla	34	2	1	31	19
H. Manoteras	34	0	0	34	0
B. Hipotecario	34	11	3	20	71
Casa de Campo	34	4	4	26	51
Alcosala	34	0	0	34	0

SHOOT
EXCLUSIVE

SHAWARD



DDY WADDY



ONE of Gary Shaw's greatest ambitions was to play the drums in a leading pop group.

Well, thanks to SHOOT and SHOWADDYWADDY Gary's dream has come true.

We arranged for our new star writer to sit in on a practice session when the popular group appeared at The Night Out theatre restaurant in Birmingham.

"It was the thrill of a lifetime playing with Showaddywaddy," says Gary.

"I've always been a keen drummer and had a set at home before my parents insisted I got rid of them.

"I took along a couple of Villa shirts and the boys in the group presented me with an autographed copy of their hit album BRIGHT LIGHTS.

"The suit's not mine by the way, they lent it to me for the session. The lads at Villa will have a laugh when they see the picture.

"Guitarist Trevor Oakes (right) is a real football fanatic and a regular SHOOT reader.

"Despite the demands of touring with the group, Trevor finds the time to play on the left-wing for Birstall Eagle, a club in the Leicester City League.

"He's also a regular in the Show-Biz XI, helping to raise money for charity.

"The real drummer, Romeo Challenger (left) was born in the same street as West Indian Test cricketer Viv Richards, but the two have never met.

"Perhaps SHOOT can arrange that for Romeo."

We might not be able to do that, but at least we have helped Gary Shaw hit the Bright Lights with SHOWADDYWADDY.



VILLA'S OTHER RECORD

A CLUE to one of the reasons behind Aston Villa's Championship success came from their record last season of providing more ever-present players in the Football League than any other club. Seven of Ron Saunders' men: Jimmy Rimmer, Ken Swain, Ken McNaught, Dennis Mortimer, Des Bremner, Gordon Cowans and Tony Morley were 100 per centers.

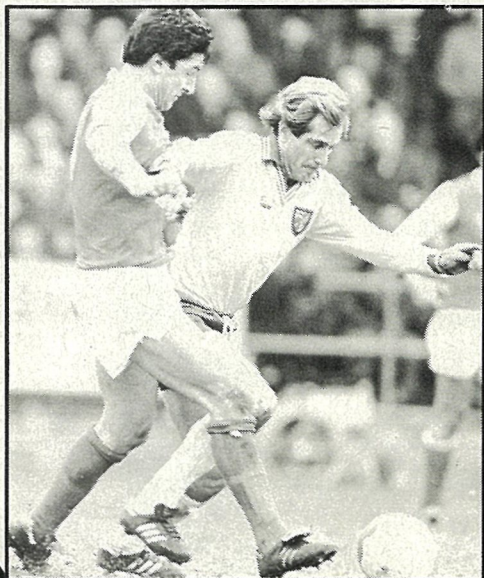
None of the other teams in the competition managed to match this settled look, although 61 of the 92 had some players who did not miss a game. There were 98 players in all.

Oddly enough lowly Fourth Division club Crewe Alexandra came next with four players ever present while another seven teams had three each.

Aldershot: Wooler
 Arsenal: Sansom
 Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Cowans, Morley
 Birmingham City: Langan
 Blackburn: Branagan, Keeley
 Bournemouth: Heffernan
 Brighton: Foster, Robinson
 Bristol Rov: Mabbutt
 Burnley: Dobson, Hamilton
 Cardiff City: Pontin, Ronson
 Charlton Ath: Powell
 Chelsea: Borota
 Chester: Millington
 Chesterfield: Green
 Colchester Utd: Walker
 Coventry City: Roberts
 Crewe Alex: Mulhearn, Lewis, Hunter, Prophet

Darlington: Skipper, Walsh
 Derby County: Jones
 Doncaster Rov: Russell
 Exeter City: Kelloww
 Grimsby Town: Batch, Waters, Mitchell
 Hartlepool: Brown, Kerr
 Huddersfield Tn: Brown
 Ipswich Town: Osman
 Leeds United: Lukic
 Leicester City: Wallington, Williams
 Lincoln City: Shipley
 Liverpool: Neal
 Luton Town: Donaghy, Hill, Stein
 Man. City: Power
 Man. United: Albiston, Coppell
 Mansfield Town: McClelland
 Northampton Tn: Poole
 Norwich City: Paddon
 Notts County: Benjamin, Kilcline, Hunt
 Oldham Athletic: Blair
 Orient: Roffey
 Peterborough U: Kellock, Cooke

Plymouth Argyle: Crudgington, Foster, Kemp
 Preston: Baxter
 Q.P.R.: Gillard
 Rochdale: Wellings
 Rotherham Utd: Breckin
 Scunthorpe Utd: Cammack
 Shrewsbury: Wardle, King, Tong
 Southampton: Nicholl, Channon
 Southend Utd: Cawston, Gray, Spence
 Stockport: Rutter
 Stoke City: Fox
 Sunderland: Cummins
 Swansea City: Stewart
 Torquay: O'Keefe, Jones, Pethard
 Tottenham: Perryman
 Tranmere Rovers: Johnson
 Watford: Jackett, Blissett
 West Brom: Godden, Wile
 West Ham: Parkes, Pike
 Wigan Ath: Methven
 Wrexham: Davies
 York City: Craig, McDonald



Aston Villa's Des Bremner goes close against Forest (above). He was one of seven Villa players to appear in all 42 League games for the Champions. Graham Paddon (light shirt, left) was also an ever-present for Norwich last season, while the veteran goalkeeper Ken Mulhearn (right) also didn't miss a game with Fourth Division Crewe Alexandra.



MIDWAY through last season with Lincoln City going strongly for promotion, manager Colin Murphy called in top striker Mick Harford and skipper Trevor Peake. "Several leading clubs are showing a keen interest in both of you . . . and one of you will have to go," he said.

Finally it was Harford who made the £180,000 switch to Newcastle to balance the books at Sincil Bank — while Peake stayed to see the job through. The reward was promotion back to the Third Division and a huge career boost for the six foot key defender.

"Of course I'm ambitious, and a glamorous club has to be an attraction, but there are a lot of players in the League who've slogged on for years and never known the thrill of promotion. I count myself as very lucky to have achieved it in only my second season," says Peake (below).

SPEEDY IMPS OVERCOME TRANSFER SAGA



The 24-year-old captain of Lincoln's outstanding campaign joined the club from non-League Nuneaton: his rise under manager Murphy will make him one of the most-watched players of 1981-82 — especially as he is playing at a higher level.

The Imps defence under his command during the promotion surge conceded fewer goals than any other club in the League and Peake states: "I know that we will be meeting quicker, better players in the Third, but we can handle the extra demands."

There was added pressure on the best defence in football when Harford moved to Newcastle. "It wasn't so much in terms of territorial play, more in the sense of knowing that if we made a mistake and let in a goal, we could struggle to score twice to win," says Peake.

But Lincoln did not falter. "It is

amazing how many mountains you can climb with organisation and character," says manager Murphy.

His own honesty towards his players also played a major role. "He was completely straightforward when he called Mick and myself in together," says Peake. "He put the position exactly, named the clubs known to be interested in us and kept us fully in the picture."

Confidence

Although the goals became harder to get with the departure of Harford and scorelines dropped from three clear goals to narrow wins, there was never a crack in the determination and confidence of Lincoln's defenders. "And a lot of that is down to the manager's frank attitude," says Peake.

There is not a great deal of experience in the squad that Murphy now leads back into the Third Division after relegation. "But that does not worry me. This is a young side getting better," responds Murphy. "For most of the players it is an exciting step up."

"Our average age of 21-22 will count strongly in our favour and the qualities we showed to win promotion will be there again."

The betting around Sincil Bank, too, is that Peake, a modest £15,000 Southern League player just two years ago, will prove himself to be one of the League's outstanding prospects as a central defender.

What more can Altrincham do?



LIVERPOOL, the most successful football city in Europe, is also home for the most disappointed, disillusioned man in the game — Altrincham manager Tony Sanders. The celebrations around Merseyside as Bob Paisley's mighty side bring home the European Cup and League Cup ring bitterly in his ears

"I thought, in fact everyone thought, that we would have our own bit of excitement as a brand new Football League club. Even now I can't believe that we are back where we started. What happened to us at the League annual meeting was terribly, dreadfully wrong," he states.

Alliance League Champions Altrincham sat outside the door at the Cafe Royal convinced that they were going to be made welcome: instead that door was slammed cruelly in their faces.

"It was the worst let down of my life — and that goes for everyone at the club," says Sanders. "My directors have been smashed to the floor; the ambitions of the players left in ruins; the supporters have gone wild with frustration; my own dream of being a League manager wrecked . . . perhaps for ever."

"Frankly I don't know if the directors will again mount the kind of campaign that is needed to achieve League status. To do it right is a vastly expensive operation — and, believe me, we did it right. Not a penny was spared."

"At the end of it all, we are even worse off than the year before: then we lost by one vote . . . this time we polled ten fewer! It is beyond logic."

What had Altrincham done to gain even less backing than the year before? "I'll answer that by giving you our record since 1978,"

he answers grimly. "That was the year that we won the F.A. Trophy at Wembley to launch the bid to get us into the League."

"In 1979, we drew at Spurs in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup and won the Northern Premier League; in 1980, we drew against Orient in the Cup and won the Alliance title; in 1981, we played Liverpool in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup and gave a good account of ourselves (pictured above) — then won the Alliance League title again."

"I'll make a straight challenge here: how many Third and Fourth Division clubs have reach the Third Round of the Cup for three consecutive years?"

'Stability'

"How many of them, too, have the financial stability that we possess? Yet Altrincham, a club of proven success on the field and at the bank, leaves the League annual meeting as complete failures while clubs that finish in the bottom four of the Fourth Division year after year and are financially in ruins walk out as total victors."

"What makes it even more incredible is that I don't think that the chairmen of the League clubs understand the system they operate. Several said 'Better luck next year' as they walked past me — assuming that we will have a go again. Aren't they aware that you have TO WIN the Alliance League to make an application?"

John King has been skipper of Altrincham over those past three seasons of glory and says: "The question we are all left asking ourselves is this: what is the point of the Alliance? We understood that it was to bring together the best clubs of the North and South to produce a worthy candidate for the League — but it obviously doesn't work that way."

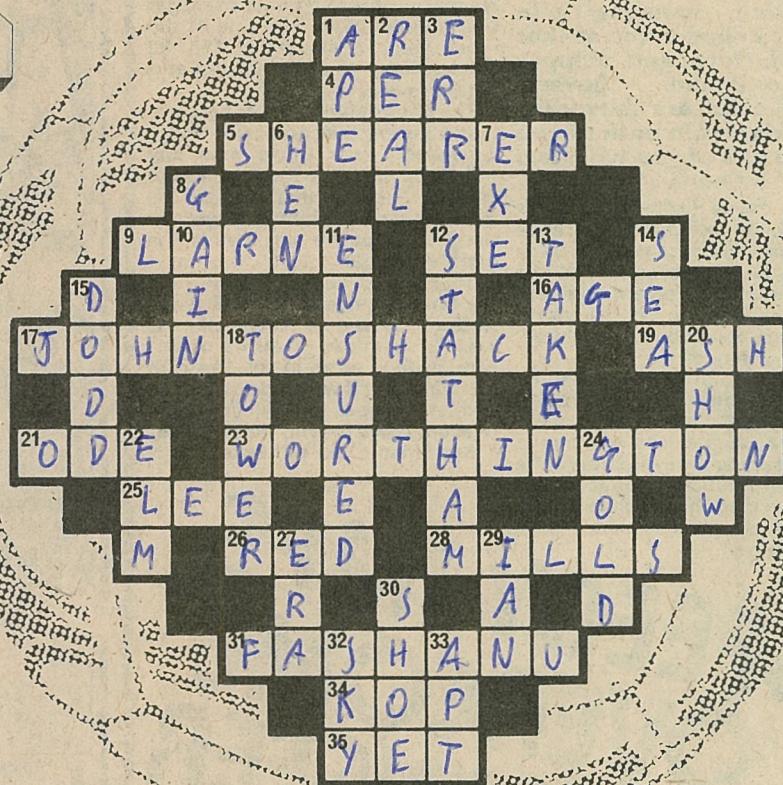
ON THE BALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- (1) be-de-n play at Pittodrie Stadium. (3)
- (4) Steve ---ryman, Spurs skipper. (3)
- (5) David ---, Middlesbrough striker. (7)
- (9) Irish club. (5)
- (12) Ayr United play at Somer--- Park. (3)
- (16) A qualification determining whether players can be selected for certain International competitions. (3)
- (17) Swansea City manager. (4&7)
- (19) Bristol City play at ---ton Gate. (3)
- (21) Use three letters from Rochdale to make a poem. (3)
- (23) Frank ---, former England striker. (11)
- (25) Colin ---, Chelsea striker. (3)
- (26) The colour to precede Star Belgrade. (3)
- (28) Mick ---, Ipswich Town defender. (5)
- (31) Justin ---, Norwich City striker. (7)
- (34) Liverpool's crowd! (3)
- (35) If Watford, Derby & Clyde make "DYE"; what do Bury, Stoke & Newport make? (3)

DOWN

- (1) Steve Gr---s of Cardiff. (3)
- (2) --- Madrid have won the European Cup six times. (4)
- (3) Make mistakes. (3)
- (6) Sout---d Utd, Division Four Champions 1980-81. (3)
- (7) ---ter City, whose ground is St James' Park. (3)
- (8) Profit. (4)
- (11) Made safe or certain. (7)
- (12) Derek ---, WBA defender. (7)
- (13) Carried out ... like a free kick! (5)
- (14) It is found in both the clubs from Stamford Bridge & Vetch Field. (3)
- (15) Alan ---, Stoke City defender. (4)
- (18) Tall structure holding the floodlights. (5)
- (20) What is needed to complete Old --- Ground, Scunthorpe United? (4)
- (22) --- Park, ground of Reading. (3)
- (24) One of Wolverhampton Wanderers colours. (4)
- (27) Period of time from Coleraine (Ireland). (3)
- (29) --- Gillard, Q.P.R. full-back. (3)
- (30) Footwear. (4)
- (32) Coventry play in --- blue. (3)
- (33) Fitting. (3)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 36

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'CLEMENCE SHOCK'

I MUST admit it came as a little bit of a shock to me when I heard that Ray Clemence had said he wanted to leave Liverpool.

I thought I was the one who was supposed to surprise people, but certainly Ray raised a few eyebrows by saying he thought the time was right to leave Anfield.

But is it surprising that people like myself and Ray want to leave top clubs? And you can add other big names like Liam Brady, Kevin Keegan and Tony Woodcock, who have all left top English clubs in the last few years.

It's got to be remembered that a footballer's career is still a very short time. In football, your whole future can be turned inside out and back again all within the space of a month.

I personally think it's perfectly understandable that Ray should be ready for a new challenge

after more than a decade of incredible success with Liverpool.

I know he's leaving the top club in the country but he's entitled to want to experience something different at a time in his career when there is not exactly an eternity left.

He knows that Liverpool have spent a lot of money by modern standards to sign Bruce Grobbelaar and at £250,000 they must be thinking of him in terms of a first team place at some stage.

New Contract

If you look at it from Ray's point of view, he could sign a new contract with Liverpool and then find himself out of the side within 12 months.

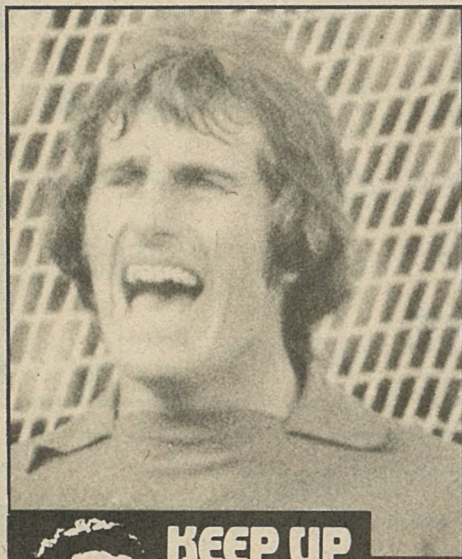
Knowing how much Ray wants to play for England in the World Cup Finals next year, reserve team football would obviously be no good to him at such an important stage of his career.

Knowing Ray, he's probably assessed all the possibilities and decided now is the time to make a break.

After the kind — and number of years — of service he has given to Liverpool, no one can accuse him of being disloyal. And I don't think anyone will.

Ray Clemence, seeking a move from Anfield.

The arrival of Bruce Grobbelaar at Liverpool has probably prompted Ray's transfer request.



THERE are a few managers joining — and dropping off — football's summer merry go round at the moment.

It seems that every time you pick up a morning paper some club has either sacked a manager, are looking for one or have appointed a new man.

And the current situation just confirms the view that the value of having the right man in charge is imperative in the increasingly demanding battle for success.

At one time it used to be directors who were the all-important people, but nowadays everyone seems to be realising that managers and players — particularly goalkeepers — are the men in vital positions.

Obviously, there have been some big changes . . . and none bigger than the one that took Ron Atkinson from West Brom to Manchester United to take over from Dave Sexton.

To be honest, I was a little surprised that United didn't go for Atkinson much earlier than they did. He appears to have all the

'Sunderland surprise'



credentials they are looking for in a manager.

He's shown by turning West Brom into one of the top half dozen English clubs that he can be successful on the field, and in addition to that he's got the type of image that United were seeking.

Forthright

It will be fascinating to see the battle for success — and hear the battle of words — that will take place between Atkinson and John Bond because both men are forthright characters in their own right.

Another manager who has made the move to a "bigger" club is Alan Durban, who has been given the

Alan Durban has left Stoke to take over at Sunderland.

job of re-establishing Sunderland as a top First Division side.

He's joining a club with great potential and I am sure he realises what will be expected of him.

But he's already shown what he can do on a shoestring budget at my old club Stoke by taking them from the bottom six of the Second Division to a respectable position in the First.

I know that Stoke were greatly criticised for their defensive approach last season, but under Alan's shrewd leadership they finished in the top ten in the First Division, the kind of position which Sunderland would love to occupy.

If Sunderland make a reasonable amount of money available to him to buy the quality of player he would like to have taken to Stoke, they could be one of the surprise teams of next season.



EVERY football season produces a string of facts and figures — and we've put together some of those you may have missed.

Only Football League, F.A. Cup and League matches are taken into consideration — except for those clubs in Europe.

Facts you may have missed

FIRST LEAGUE GOAL OF THE SEASON: Byron Stevenson (Leeds United) v Aston Villa — a penalty (pictured above).

QUICKEST GOAL: Joe Waters (Grimsby Town) v Cambridge United — 8 seconds.

MOST LONG-AWAITED GOAL: Garry Birtles for Manchester United (we think!)

BEST GOAL: Peter Barnes (West Bromwich Albion) v Tottenham Hotspur.

BEST OWN GOAL: John Ridley (Chesterfield) v Brentford — a 35 yard shot!

BIGGEST SHOCKS: Liverpool 1 Leicester 2; Watford 7 Southampton 1.

TOP GOALSCORER: John Wark (Ipswich Town) 36.

ONLY GOALKEEPER TO SCORE: Ray Goddard (Wimbledon) v Bury.

SENT OFF TWICE: Phil Ferns (Bournemouth) v Darlington & Southend. Tony Mahoney (Fulham) v Burnley and Peterborough.

MOST HAT-TRICKS: Tony Kellow (Exeter City) 3 v Charlton Athletic, Gillingham and Leicester City.

BIGGEST WIN: Liverpool 10 Olum Palloseura 1.

BIGGEST AWAY WIN: Bury 0 Nottingham Forest 7.

MOST GOALS IN A MATCH: 4 by: John Wark (Ipswich) v Aris Salonika. Dennis Tueart (Manchester City) v Notts County. Gordon Hobson (Lincoln City) v Northampton. Peter Coyne (Crewe Alexandra) v Hereford. Mark Sanford (Aldershot) v Hereford. David Cross (West Ham) v Grimsby.

LONGEST WINNING RUN: Charlton Athletic 9.

LONGEST LOSING RUN: Crystal Palace, Hull City 7.

LONGEST UNBEATEN RUN: Liverpool 22.

LONGEST RUN WITHOUT A GOAL: Chelsea 9 — and 12 out of last 13.

LONGEST SCORING RUN: Ipswich Town 20.

MOST GOALLESS DRAWS: Blackburn Rovers 13.

FEWEST GOALLESS DRAWS: Manchester City, Leicester City and Norwich City 0.

GOALLESS IN MOST GAMES: Bristol City, Newcastle, Hull City and Hereford 25.

TEAM KEEPING MOST BLANK SHEETS: West Ham United 29.

MOST DRAWS: Liverpool 22.

MOST GOALS: Ipswich 124.

FEWEST GOALS: Newcastle United 38.

BEST GOALSCORING SEQUENCE: David Cross (West Ham) 6.

MOST GOALSCORERS: West Ham United 20.

FEWEST GOALSCORERS: Plymouth Argyle 8. Aston Villa and Grimsby Town 9.

MOST HAT-TRICKS: Liverpool, West Ham United, Barnsley, Exeter City and Lincoln City.

MOST PLAYERS SENT OFF: Crystal Palace and Sheffield Wednesday 4.

MOST OWN GOALS (FOR): Carlisle United 6.

MOST OWN GOALS (CONCEDED): Bolton Wanderers, Bradford City and Bristol Rovers.

MOST OWN GOALS: Colin Prophet (Crewe Alexandra) 4.

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SHOOT/DUNLOP COMPETITION RESULT

In our Dunlop competition in May 2nd issue readers were invited to answer three questions about Trevor Brooking. The correct answers were:

1 — Portugal; 2 — A header; 3 — European Cup-Winners' Cup.

Sender of the neatest correct entry, with age taken into account, was judged to be Gary Shaw of Romford. Gary wins a day out with Trevor Brooking plus a pair of Dunlop Superstars 10 football boots, a pair of Superstars 200 training shoes, a tracksuit and a Dunlop football.

There were five second prizewinners who win Dunlop football boots and training shoes, they are: Iain Halewood, Liverpool; Steven Hussey, Dagenham; Jonathan Peake, Southampton; Paul Watkin, High Wycombe; Graham Williams, St Ives.

Ten third prizewinners win Superstars 10 football boots, they are:

David Bryan, Connah's Quay
Robert Burton, Tiverton
Chris Davies, Nottingham
Mark Godfrey, Grays
Roy Hampton, Holmer Green

Paul Jacobs, Oxford
Lynne Robson, Churchdown
Paul Rogers, Tiverton
Neil Rowlands, Upholland
Wayne Westacott, Exeter

There were also 100 runners-up, who each receive autographed photographs of Trevor Brooking, these are:

Mohammed Akram, Rochdale; Andrew Anderson, Lerwick; Stuart Anderson, Berwick upon Tweed; Mark Annis, Poole; Joseph Armstrong, Ballymena; Geoffrey Baldock, Maidstone; Christopher Ball, Glossop; Mark Banks, London E4; Nigel Bennett, Stafford; Kevin Bishop, Plymouth; Stephen Blight, Maidstone; Simon Boon, Ashford; Paul Bowden, Hayle; Craig Brown, Stockton; Neil Bryson, Carlisle; Michael Campin, Wickford; John Carter, St Helier; Philip Castell, Birmingham; Rodney Catton, Bishops Cleeve; Paul Cockram, Bristol; Graham Cook, Hartley Wintney; Antony Cornell, Newcastle; William Cornell, Sittingbourne; D. Coumendis, London SE1; Richard Cozens, Bognor Regis; David Curley, Manchester; Tony Cutler, Sheffield; Carl Dane, Strood; Neil Debbage, Malden; Darren Drake, Chichester; Stephen Drake, Norwich; Peter Dykes, Wirral; Peter Edwards, Hersden; Jeremy Falle, St Clement; Andrew Farmer, London; Stuart Fletcher, Abingdon; Douglas Folger, Huddersfield; Simon Gooding, Birmingham; Gregor Gough, Uxbridge; Steven Greenhough, Matlock; Matthew Griffiths, Amersham; Michael Grimaldi, Ryde; Paul Groves, South Ockendon; David Hales, Tadcaster; David Harker, Thame; Graham Harris, Bristol; Simon Havis, Boxford; Robert Hawkins, Romford; David Hawley, Northallerton; David Hemmings, Southend on Sea; Stephen Hooper, Tiverton; Sarah Howard, London NW5; Philip Hickmott, Herne Bay; Steven Hudson, Brentwood; Mark Humber, Brighton; Keith Johnston, Penrith; Francis Kearney, Uxbridge; Timothy Kremer, Dover; Christopher Leach, London SE6; Paul Ledger, Leeds; David Leeming, London E9; Steven Markwick, Reigate; Roy Mason, Keighley; Andrew McKenna, Cleethorpes; Geoffrey Meadows, St Helens; Steven Milchard, London E10; Adrian Mills, Welwyn Garden City; Julian Nutley, Maidstone; Ian Oldfield, Oxford; Iain Patterson, Stockport; David Parker, Aylesbury; Justin Peat, Norwich; Angus Phillips, Dorset; Stephen Pigney, Stock; Duncan Potter, Ringwood; Martin Price, Madley; Kevin Roberts, Denbigh; Marc Sargeant, Hornchurch; Andrew Scott, Grays; David Sellers, Heswall; Donal Sheridan, Belfast; David Simonson, London E5; Nicholas Somerton-Rees, Weston Super Mare; Peter Stowall, Bradford; Bryan Streeter, Southwater; John Tindale, Houghton Le Spring; John Turner, Rochdale; Phillip Waite, London SW15; David Ward, Hillstown; John Watson, Barking; Michael Wear, Norfolk; Adrian West, Scunthorpe; Graham Wilkinson, Chester Le Street; David Williams, London SW16; David Willis, Brightlingsea; Gareth Williams, Swansea; Robert Wilson, Worthington; Kevin Worgan, Swindon; Douglas Wright, Moray; David Young, Hitchin.

PETER Weir completed a frustrating, annoyingly inconsistent season with St. Mirren in fairly sensational style ... he became Scottish soccer's most expensive player!

Aberdeen manager Alex Ferguson parted with £230,000 in cash plus Ian Scanlon, valued at £100,000, to entice the Paisley club into parting with their mesmerising outside-left.

"It hadn't been a happy season until then," admits Weir. "The previous year had been entirely different. I made the breakthrough at both club and country level and

to stardom the previous year, but the player had been warned that such a thing might happen ... by Scotland manager Jock Stein.

The Scots boss rewarded the entertaining winger with his first full cap against Northern Ireland in Belfast last year, but he realised it would be extremely difficult for Weir to sustain such entrancing form.

Arsenal were reported to be interested in the skills of Weir, but, after a close look at the player in a friendly at Love Street between the two sides last season, Highbury boss Terry Neill said: "I will only buy players whom I think are better than the ones I already have

WEIR HITS JACKPOT AFTER POOR SEASON

ended the term playing for Scotland on their tour of Poland and Hungary.

"However, I dropped out of things at international level last season. Reaction set into my game and I was left out of the Saints first team on several occasions by manager Ricky McFarlane.

"Now, though, all that is in the past and I'm looking forward to the future. I've never hidden my admiration of Aberdeen.

"I used to go and see them as often as I could when I was a kid and it's simply marvellous to be joining such an ambitious club.

"They want to be the best and so do I. Ambitious? Of course I am! I want to win everything there is in this game and I'm confident I can do that at Pittodrie."

Weir's form dipped alarmingly last season after his meteoric rise



Weir turns on the magic for St. Mirren against Aberdeen's Stewart Kennedy last season (above). Now the two will be teaming up.

Willie Miller, one of Weir's international team-mates at Aberdeen (left).

at Arsenal."

No deal was done and Weir must have wondered if he had missed his big opportunity of getting a transfer.

Pittodrie boss Alex Ferguson says: "I believe Peter Weir will do a first class job for this club. I'm really excited at the prospects of next season.

"Peter will give us width on the left and Gordon Strachan is back to peak fitness to operate on the right. I'm still looking for new players, but I think we have the right balance.

"I know all about Peter's skills and class. Remember I was manager of St. Mirren when he was breaking through. I've always been impressed by his ability and I know we have bought somebody who wants to play for this club and

bring success to Pittodrie.

"Obviously I was disappointed the way things turned out for us last season. Injuries and loss of form really crippled us, but we'll come bouncing back.

"Peter Weir will help us to get back to the top."

Weir is not bothered at becoming Scotland's most expensive player. Ironically he takes the mantle from his former St. Mirren colleague Frank McGarvey, who cost Celtic £275,000 from Liverpool last year.

"I'm only interested in playing football," says Weir. "I can't wait for the kick off to the new season. There's a real buzz in the air at Pittodrie and I'm looking forward to teaming up with my new colleagues.

"I've already played alongside Willie Miller, Alex McLeish and Gordon Strachan in the international side. They are fine players and I know there are many more at Pittodrie.

"This is the move of a lifetime for me. If I can't play in this company I can't play at all."



GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £10 for the Star Letter — £4 for every other published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT! All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from David Needham of Romford, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

TV TOPPERS IPSWICH

IPSWICH Town may have won only the minor trophy out of the three they were going for last season, but they were still the most featured team of BBC TV's *Match of the Day*.

Out of the 59 teams shown, they appeared the most, 13 times. Aston Villa, the League Champions, were second (ten appearances) and the two Manchester clubs joint third, appearing nine times each. Liverpool, winners of the two previous seasons, managed only joint fifth place with four other clubs. Ipswich's neighbours, Norwich City, must have hated the sight of the BBC cameras. In five appearances on the then Sunday show, they conceded 19 goals, twice being hit for six by Middlesbrough and Manchester City.

Six was, indeed, the highest score by one team in one edition, Chelsea also hitting six against Newcastle United (below).

The average per game was 2.6 goals, up on the previous season and showing people that English football isn't as defensive as they think.

The best edition for goals was October 5th. 15 goals were scored, Middlesbrough beating Norwich 6-1, Villa hitting four, and Bournemouth drawing 2-2 with Scunthorpe.



● I think most fans will be glad the television companies are reverting to their traditional slots again next season.

Fool's Paradise

I WAS very surprised when reading your comments on the Welsh national team.

Surely Mike England and his men are living in a fool's paradise. How can they be described as the "best ever Welsh squad" having only come up against such second and third rate opposition as Malta and Turkey?

How can such ordinary players as Flynn, James and Yorath be put in the same bracket as such illustrious Welshmen as Ivor Allchurch and the Charles brothers?

I admit that the Welsh team is full of commitment, but honest endeavour alone is not enough when faced with such world class opposition as Argentina, West Germany and Brazil.

WILLIAM BOWLES, HULL.

● Wales are poised to reach the World Cup Finals for the first time in 24 years, a tremendous achievement. Then, perhaps, they can emulate the 'greats' of 1958.

Silent fans

SHOOT VIEW criticised English players for their lack of commitment in international games. It was pertinent and valid but I think you may have overlooked one other area of complaint.

The recent England/Scotland game at Wembley demonstrated once again the incredible volume of enthusiastic (at times albeit loudish) and loyal support enjoyed by Scotland.

The same cannot be said of the

English fans. Presumably there were more of them at Wembley than Scots, yet the game might as well have been at Hampden Park.

It never ceases to amaze me how loud a rendition of "What a load of rubbish" the English fans can produce, when they have remained silent when their team most needed encouragement.

ARTHUR HAMILTON, CO. SLIGO.

● Let's be honest. England fans haven't had much to get excited about lately.



Too much criticism

HOW on earth can anyone expect England to play well?

The Press criticise the whole England set-up and everything Ron Greenwood and his men do.

Jimmy Hill (in his usual critical manner) says England need more confidence. Well, of course they do, but the only way they will get it is if people start backing them.

If the Press could show more confidence then the public would soon follow their view, in the same way that they are having doubts about their national side at the moment because of the Press criticism.

CAROL HAYTON, ABINGDON.

● After six games without a win, and World Cup hopes fading, what else could England expect but criticism?

Wrong to be a 'loud mouth'?

AS a lifelong Villa supporter I was very upset to read Tony Morley's sneering comments regarding "loud-mouthed spectators".

I saw something like 30 matches last season, and used my "loud mouth" to (as I thought) encourage the team.

As for his hard seven days a week job, I have to work seven days a week to earn £80 — would he swap places with me?

It seems to me I have been spending my money watching players who despise the people who pay their wages.

I shall think twice about doing this in future, especially as I have to travel from Oxford.

Is there anybody in football today who has an iota of respect for the man on the terraces?

COLIN MACFARLANE, OXFORD.

● I think Morley was referring to the minority of boo-boys who can hurt players.

Easy to win

THE European Cup is becoming easier to win each year; the standard of European football is at its lowest ever.

To get into the European Cup Final nowadays you need a reasonably good team, and to reach a certain standard of fitness.

This would not have been good enough in the old days, especially at the start of the 70's when you needed a very good team to reach the Final.

ANIL OHAMI, RAINHAM.

● I'm sure Liverpool would agree qualifying for the European Cup is more difficult than winning it.

Well done, Scotland

SCOTTISH football fans have come in for a lot of stick, especially from people South of the border, but after the game at Wembley, they should be given great credit for their excellent behaviour.

There was none of the pitch invasions or shameful violence which had embarrassed true Scottish fans and the players alike during previous years.

Instead the fans were on their best behaviour in and around Wembley, which seems quite amazing considering that there was no segregation between rival fans as not so many Scots had been expected.

And a message to Mr Croker: The Incredible Tartan Army will always find a way. "Ye canna ban us frae Wembley"!

SHONAGH GORDON, BANCHORY.

● Let's hope it continues — and England fans follow suit.

ASK THE EXPERT

Send your letters to: Ask the Expert, SHOOT! King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £2 for every letter published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. When writing, please state size: small, medium or large. While every letter is read, our Expert regrets he cannot reply to individual letters personally.

1966 results

It seems a long time now since England won the World Cup in 1966, but I'd like to know their results and scorers then.

BEN WARREN, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

● In Group One, Ben, they kicked-off with a 0-0 draw against Uruguay — followed by a 2-0 win over Mexico (Bobby Charlton, Roger Hunt), and another of 2-0 against France (Hunt 2).

This qualified England for the Quarter-Finals, in which they beat Argentina 1-0 (Geoff Hurst) — after which it was 2-1 against Portugal (Bobby Charlton two) in the Semi-Finals; and 4-2 against West Germany (Hurst three, Martin Peters) in the Final.

Debut goals

Has any player ever scored a hat-trick on his Football League debut?

JOHN McMAHON, EIRE

● Well, John, George Hilsdon — who later went on to gain eight England caps — actually scored five on his debut for Chelsea v. Glossop in a Second Division game on 1st September, 1906.

Five other players have scored four — and as many as around a couple of dozen have hit three on their Football League debut.

But, up in Scotland, debutant John Dyer went even better with eight when King's Park beat Forfar Athletic 12-2 in a Second Division game on 2nd January, 1930.

Home wins

Has any Football League side ever gone through a whole season winning every one of their home games?

K. KANDASAMY, LIVERPOOL

● Yes, six have — including your local Anfield lads — but only one in the full-scale programme of modern times.

Brentford were the team — and they won all 21 home games in the old Division Three (South) in 1929-30.

The others, in a smaller programme, were Sunderland (13 games; Div. One; 1891-92); Liverpool (15 games; Div. Two; 1893-94); Bury (16 games; Div. Two; 1894-95); Sheffield Wednesday (18 games; Div. Two; 1899-1900); and Small Heath (now called Birmingham) (18 games; Div. Two; 1902-03).

SHORT PASSES

● The Football League Cup started in the 1960-61 season; first winners were Aston Villa.

(ANDREW BALDOCK, Eastbourne)

● Martin Buchan made his full international debut for Scotland in the 1-0 win over Belgium in Aberdeen on 10th November, 1971.

(ALI JENABY, Iraq)

Short Passes are replies to readers' letters.

BIG Ron Atkinson was not lost for words when he stood upon the Great Wall of China and cast his eyes along one of the world's architectural miracles to the distant horizon.

"What's all the fuss about?" he said, "It's only a load of old bricks."

His joke brought the house, if not the wall down, and fortunately there was not a Chinaman in earshot. In any case, the remark was not meant disrespectfully.

It was simply a typical burst of wicked Atkinson humour guaranteed to inject momentary light relief into a long, tiring day of sightseeing.

Atkinson's immortal words were uttered on West Bromwich Albion's tour to the People's Republic a year or two ago.

The story serves to illustrate vividly the type of man Manchester United have inherited as successor to Dave Sexton.

First, and foremost, Ron Atkinson is a BIG man, the sort who can rarely walk into a crowded room unnoticed.

Geoffrey Green, well respected former football correspondent of The Times, said on radio at the end of last season that whoever took charge of the Old Trafford club



Little Lou Macari, the idol of the Stretford End who must now prove his worth to Atkinson.

has to be made demanding strong action, he will not shirk his responsibilities.

Unpredictable

His football philosophy is simply to produce a team which wins and entertains. He will not tolerate dull, defensive, over-coached tactics.

Nor will he go to the other extreme, sabotaging defence in an extravagant quest for goals.

He is a man whose actions are hard to predict. He will surprise his players as much as United's supporters. He shook the Albion fans when he used Bryan Robson, England's "find" of 1980-81, in a sweeper role at Albion after the youngster had won his spurs as a

*Continued
on page 32*

Big Ron Atkinson launches the...

NEW MAN. U

would need to be a salesman.

He was suggesting the job demanded the presence of a man with an expansive nature, prepared to sell the club to frontiers far beyond Britain, but more important, to the fans.

United have got their man!

Showman — Salesman

Ron Atkinson, the former Aston Villa, Oxford United and Kettering Town player, who progressed to management at Kettering and went on to boss Cambridge United and West Bromwich Albion, is as forthright as Brian Clough and as genial as Alec Stock, doyen of soccer chiefs at Bournemouth.

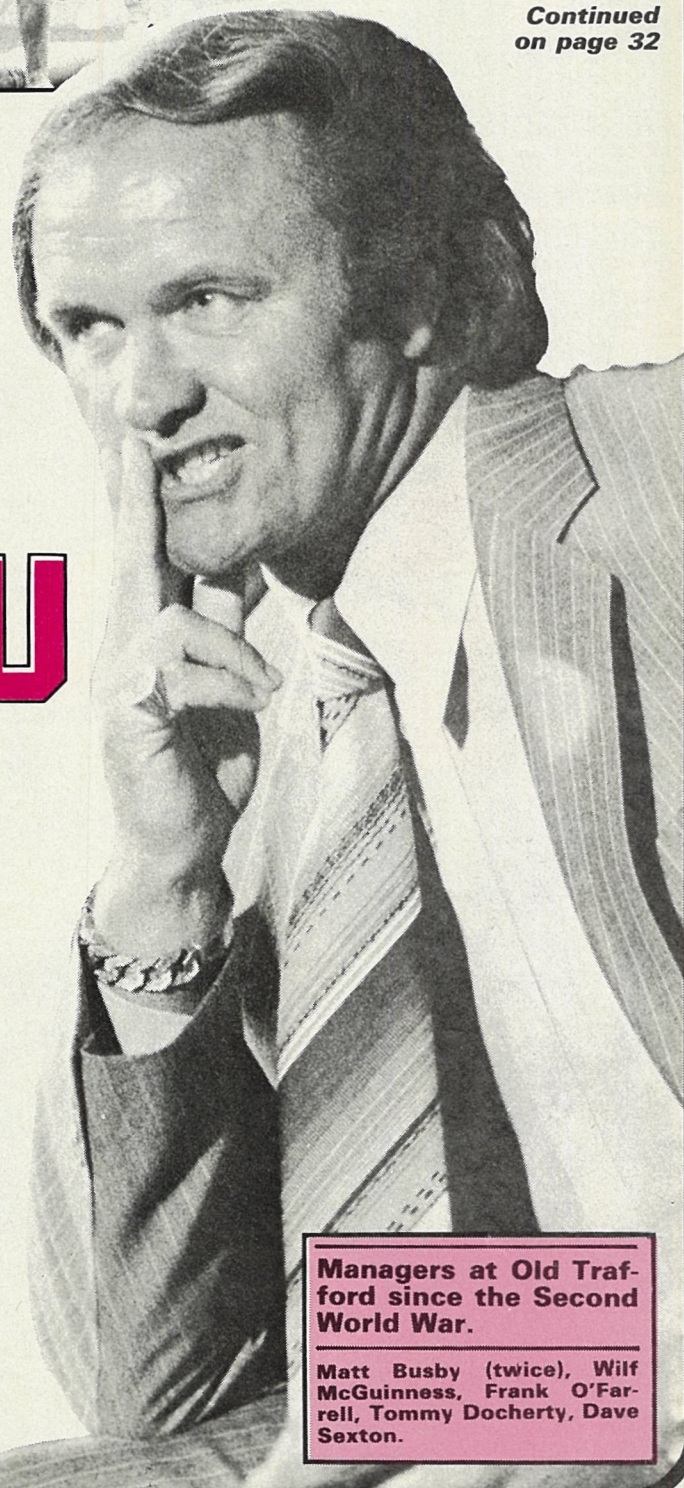
Atkinson is a showman, a salesman, a thundering good coach, and a motivator of men.

He is blunt, honest, funny, authoritarian and mild natured. There are many sides to Atkinson. If a United apprentice has a personal problem, Atkinson will help the youngster overcome his difficulties with the softness of a kindergarten teacher.

Alternatively, if a nasty decision



Martin Buchan challenges Forest's Trevor Francis.



Managers at Old Trafford since the Second World War.

Matt Busby (twice), Wilf McGuinness, Frank O'Farrell, Tommy Docherty, Dave Sexton.

MIKE
DUXBURY . . .
the England
Under-21
international has
performed well in
a variety of roles.



A warning to other First Division
clubs next season . . .

BEWARE THE RED DEVILS



MICKEY
THOMAS . . . the
non-stop Welsh
wizard, a tireless
worker.



STEVE COPPELL . . . so important to both
United and England.

JIMMY NICHOLL . . . a regular in recent seasons.



GARRY BIRTLES . . . eager to break his League goals duck.



SAMMY McILROY . . . gives a touch of class to midfield.



GARY BAILEY . . . promoted to England's number three 'keeper this summer.



KEVIN MORAN . . . called United's strongest player since Duncan Edwards.

SHOOT!

Continued from page 29

midfield player.

Ron Atkinson's surgery on Manchester United's team is likely to be skilfully incisive, and could well result in a few established stars parting company with the club in the next few months.

How will he examine Manchester United's problems? What decisions will he take on his choice of player to launch the NEW MAN U at Coventry in the first game of the season on August 29?

Transfer Talk

It has already been widely reported that he prefers the world class goalkeeping talents of Peter Shilton to the burgeoning skills of Gary Bailey.

Whether Shilton joins United in a package deal with Trevor Francis in exchange for Garry Birtles and Bailey is a matter which will be resolved in the next few weeks.

But all the talk of transfers suggests that Atkinson is keen to produce his own team rather than make do with the side Sexton bequeathed at the end of his reign.

It would be an exaggeration to say that no player's position is

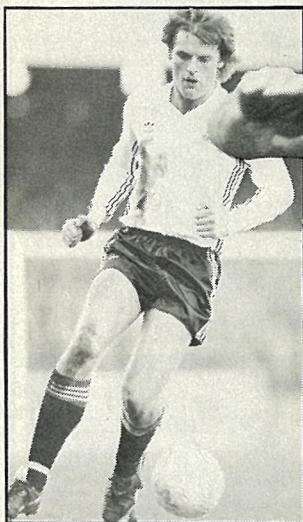
centre-backs, so Gordon McQueen, Martin Buchan, Kevin Moran and Nikola Jovanovic should more than fill the bill unless he uses them as bait in a transfer deal for new players.

The midfield, sadly short of the class of previous Manchester United play-makers, will receive the closest examination.

If United were short on attacking ideas in the early stages of last season, it was generally their midfield who came in for criticism.

Rumours are spreading that the new manager will persuade Albion's Bryan Robson to join him up North. They are probably pie-in-the-sky even though "Atki" would give his right arm for the England man's services.

But there is no smoke without fire and United's midfield of Ray Wilkins, Lou Macari, Mickey Thomas and Sammy McIlroy will not rest easy until the manager has dealt his cards.



Gordon McQueen (left), Joe Jordan (right) and Arthur Albiston (far right).

safe, but the axe is certain to disrupt the lives of several players.

Full-backs Jimmy Nicholl and Arthur Albiston will be particularly anxious to please the new boss.

He demands full-backs with strong attacking inclinations harnessed to strong defensive qualities.

Brendon Batson and Derek Statham became two of the best backs in the First Division under Atkinson's guidance.

Atkinson likes tall, commanding

Follow this Ron

HONOURS

First Division Champions: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1951-52, 1955-56, 1956-57, 1964-65, 1966-67. Runners-up: Eight times. Second Division Champions: 1935-36, 1974-75. Runners-up: Four times. European Cup winners: 1967-68. F.A. Cup winners: 1909, 1948, 1963, 1977. Runners-up: Four times.

Vital Questions

Should Wilkins adopt a more aggressive role, taking on players, driving penetrating passes, and shooting as he did in his old Chelsea days?

Is Macari playing with the tenacity he brought from Celtic in the early 70's?

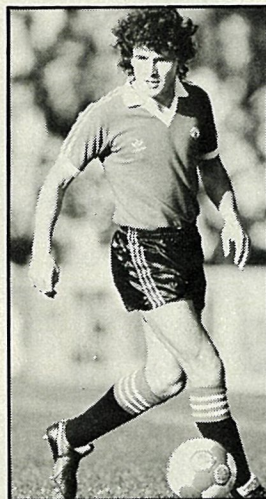
Has McIlroy fulfilled the rich potential he showed when he first joined United more than 300 League games ago?

These questions, and others, will be filling Atkinson's mind in the next few weeks.

He walked into the Joe Jordan dispute, which started when the Scotland striker asked United for £1,000 a week.

But if he inherits problems with Jordan, his handling of Garry Birtles' goal drought will make a fascinating study. Poor Birtles could well be the first victim of United's managerial change.

Dave Sexton admired the former Forest striker enough to spend £1 million on his transfer. Atkinson will question the England striker's contribution (one goal for United in five months) and consider whether one manager's meat is another manager's poison. It frustrated Atkinson beyond belief that Cyrille Regis failed to



win the England cap his power promised in the early days at Albion. "He's got all the ability but the essential drive is missing from his play," big Ron would moan.

He has promised United fans entertainment, and no club can entertain without goals, so his first essential is to make sure the men firing the bullets are worthy of selection.

Atkinson claims you never really know players until you have worked with them.

"It always takes time to get to know people. I have gone to clubs before with certain fixed ideas about players — and have been proved wrong.

"Those I thought were certain to do it for me let me down."

If United's players decide to give him problems they will be in for a shock. He'll have them out of the door so fast their feet won't touch the ground.

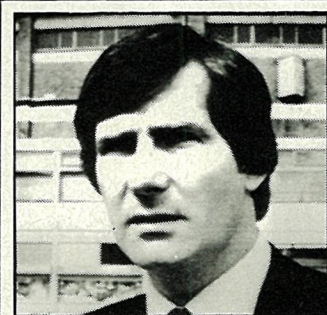
Atkinson, aged 42, is not the least overawed by the enormity of the task ahead.

"Why should it, I'm capable of handling the job, otherwise I

would not have taken it," he explains.

"When I quit playing at Oxford and moved into management with Kettering, people questioned whether I was up to it. We won the Southern League title twice in the three years, yet Cambridge United wondered if I could cope when they came in for me.

"They were bottom of the Fourth Division when I took over. I answered the doubters by leading them to the top of the Third."



The Chairman's View

Atkinson's winning qualities have clearly impressed Manchester United's young chairman Martin Edwards.

"What impresses me most about Ron Atkinson," says Mr Edwards, "is that wherever he has been, he has done well. He is associated with the type of football we want to see at Old Trafford.

"When I started watching United in 1958, I just missed the 'Busby Babes' era. But by the mid 60's Matt Busby had built another great, exciting team. Tommy Docherty built another exciting team in the 70's. We urgently need another one to get us into Europe and to draw average gates of 50,000 at Old Trafford.

"They dipped to 45,000 last season and we made £276,000 more in gate receipts the previous season than in 1980-81.

"Our main priority is to please the supporters. In that respect I think Dave Sexton was a total failure. He was reasonably successful on the field, but we felt his team was not exciting the fans.

"It is not true that letters of complaint sent to me had anything to do with Dave Sexton's dismissal, but they certainly influenced things. Most of them said they felt United were straying from the standards they had set in the past.

"Of the 25 or so home games last season, only five or six were truly enjoyable from a spectator's point of view. It's not necessarily the winning, but the manner in which you win.

A large sum of money would be made available to Ron Atkinson for new players.

"Sexton spent £4 million in four years, so we have the resources. The board have only vetoed the purchases of two players in the 11 years I've been with them.

"Managers are allowed to manage here."

Martin Edwards' words will be music to Ron Atkinson's ears. "I'm sure I can give them the success they want — indeed demand," he says confidently.

ALL managers pride themselves on being a good judge of a player.

Sometimes they have to back that judgment with big money signings, either to aid an ailing team or in pursuit of major prizes.

Managers talk about their

BEST BUYS



Mal Donaghy, Luton's bargain signing from Larne.

Obviously, one of the essential qualities for successful manager-ship is the ability to buy well. So we invited some of the game's top managers to tell us of their best signings (and one or two even conceded to transfers which failed to live up to their expectations!)

Ron Atkinson, the former West Bromwich Albion manager, did not have to think twice when it came to naming his best buy.

"Brendon Batson," he declared. "I bought him from my old club, Cambridge, for £30,000 in 1978. Since then he's developed into one of the top three right-backs in the country. I can't think of any other player that I'd rather have in a side of mine."

"I suppose my most disappointing buy has to be a player that I

bought for a lot of money. He was meant to be the icing on the cake at The Hawthorns but it hasn't turned out that way. But I believe he's still got the ability to do well."

John Lyall, boss of West Ham, last season's runaway Division Two Champions, has never been afraid to spend money in search of honours.

In the past he has paid large transfer fees for players such as goalkeeper Phil Parkes (£565,000) and striker Paul Goddard (£850,000), both from Queens Park Rangers. But he thinks his best buy is David Cross, signed from West Bromwich for £180,000 in December, 1977.

"In terms of present day values I'd have to go with David," said Lyall. "He's a very hard working player with a lot of guts — he isn't afraid to go in where it hurts."

"He's also got tremendous skill which not enough people give him credit for."

Southampton's popular manager Lawrie McMenemy found it difficult to pinpoint any one player that he could rank as his best buy. "People like Alan Ball, Peter Osgood, Peter Rodrigues and Kevin Keegan all stand out," he points out. "But I reckon pound for pound my best buys were Chris Nicholl from Aston Villa for £90,000 and David Peach, who I



Chris Nicholl, still going strong at Southampton.

got for £50,000 from Gillingham."

A few years ago Luton were in such financial straits that they were on the verge of collapse. But they pulled through and are now one of the best and most attractive teams in the Second Division. Their manager, David Pleat, has made some astute signings but he thinks his two best purchases were Kirk Stephens from non-League Nuneaton and Mal Donaghy from Irish club Larne. The pair cost him only £20,000.

'Big Return'

"They are now the best full-backs in the Division without a doubt," claimed Pleat. "I think they've more than repaid the money that I spent on them. For such a little outlay they've given me a big return."

Reflecting on his most disappointing signing Pleat admitted: "I once paid £50,000 for a striker from the North but he never hit it off for us. I got my money back though when I sold him."

Newcastle's tough boss Arthur Cox goes back to his days in charge at Chesterfield for his best signings. "They were Geoff Salmons and Billy Green. I got Geoff for £17,000 from Leicester and Billy for £27,000 from Peterborough. Both proved to be real bargains."

Allan Clarke, Leeds United's young manager, had no doubt about his best buy. "It has to be Ronnie Glavin. I bought him for £40,000 from Celtic in the summer of 1979 when I was at Barnsley. We needed a midfielder player who

could score goals. In his first season for us he hit 23 of them and he's still going strong."

"Looking back I don't think I've made what you call a bad buy."

Then, after a pause, he added this parting comment which probably also expressed the sentiments of many of his managerial colleagues:

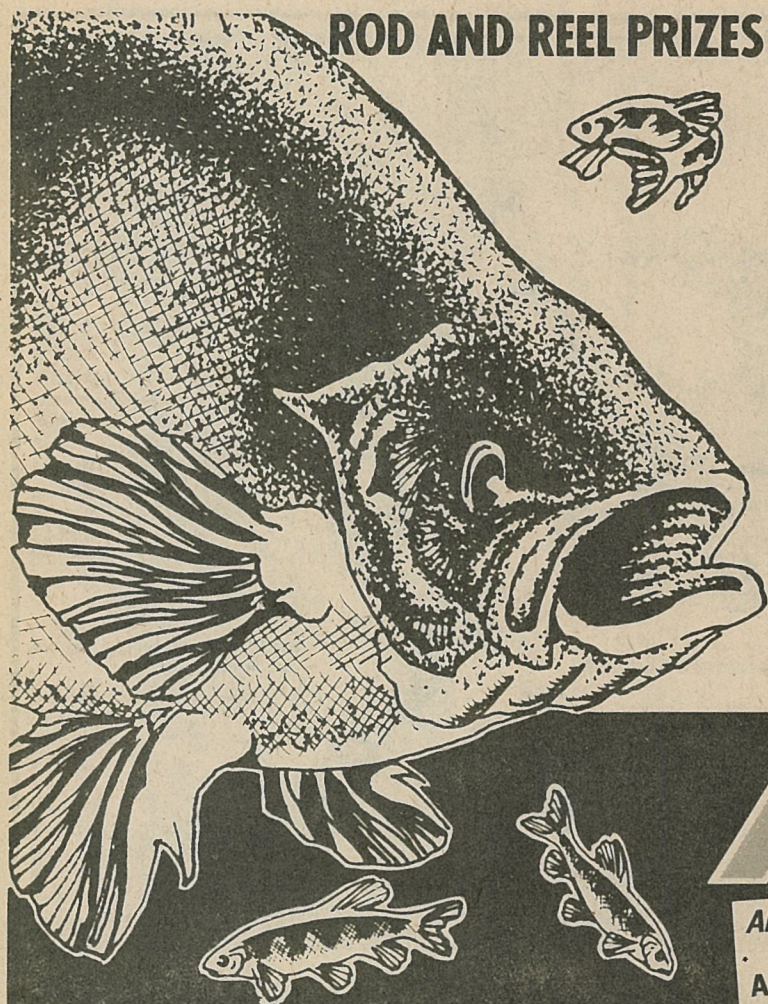
"Of course I know the time will arrive when a signing will not work out. But, if you never make a mistake, then you never do anything in life. In the end you have to back your judgment — after all, that is what you are paid to do."



West Ham striker David Cross tries a shot against Orient.



Ronnie Glavin, the goalscoring midfielder signed by Allan Clarke for Barnsley.



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NAME

ADDRESS

WITH Norway an obstacle to England's qualification for the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain, an Englishman spending a fortnight of his close season coaching their players could risk being thrown into a Tower of London dungeon.

But I'm no "traitor". My visit to Norway has nothing to do with helping to prepare their national team for their big return match with England in September.

For the third successive year I've been invited across on a working holiday, this time along with my Liverpool team-mates Phil Neal and David Johnson, to coach youngsters who are keen followers of our game.



Ray Clemence
TALKING
SOCCER

I'm sure I'm in for another enjoyable break. It's such a contrast from the high-pressure world of battling it out week after week in the League. There's no pressure at all, with everyone playing for the sheer love of the game and not for money. It's like turning the clock back to schoolboy football.

I get on tremendously with the Norwegians, most of whom speak English, and I've forged many friendships with both young and old.

Changeable

The climate in Norway is very much like that in England — changeable. Last year my first week was a wet one, but the second was bright and sunny.

The course is again run by Norwegian magazine "Sporti Bilde" and is restricted to 140 places — 70 each week — and they're all gone within two days of it being advertised.

The average age is 15, and no qualifications are required, as the lads have varying degrees of skill. But they have one thing in common: enthusiasm.

For them it's a big thrill to be taught by professionals from the

top flight of the Football League.

Each course is split into two "classes", one consisting of aspiring goalkeepers and defenders — which Phil Neal and I take — the other of midfielders and forwards instructed by Dave Johnson and a Norwegian coach.

One of the highlights of the pro-

'A WORKING HOLIDAY'

gramme is a quiz night, when I and my fellow coaches are bombarded with questions about the game. We generally do well at answering questions about present day competitions and players, but the audience often know more than we do when it comes to the past!

Last year was even more strenuous than I expected, as I took part in an event modelled on the BBC "Superstars" programme. It was England v Norway, with yours truly forming a one-man team against a Norwegian 'keeper, and competing in two running events, the 400 and 100 metres, the long jump, putting the shot and a penalty-taking com-

Ray in action as a tennis player and hurdler, though he tackled different events during his spell last year in Norway.



petition.

A very low-key event, thankfully, as I only just came out on top, which appeared as a feature in the magazine that sponsors the coaching course.

I emerged as winner of both races and the shot putt, whereas my opposite number made a longer jump and won the penalty competition. So much for my secret ambition to be a striker, I scored only



once from the penalty spot!

It's always a refreshing change to compete at other sports.

Although I enjoy every minute of my coaching job, it's certainly no rest cure. We start at eight in the morning, and don't return to our hotel until seven o'clock in the evening. So the paying customers certainly get their money's worth.

Awe Inspiring

Sunday is a day off, and I assume that we'll spend it in the same fashion as in the previous two years, with a boat ride down one of their awe-inspiring fjords: huge lakes edged by towering cliffs with picturesque little villages dotted here and there.

At the end of my coaching stint I'll hurry back to Liverpool to collect my wife Vee, my three children, and my parents, and fly off again. This time to Marbella in Spain near Torremolinos, to a villa we've rented for a fortnight.

It'll be my first real holiday for three years, giving me plenty of time to think about the next step in my career which will involve a change of club.

Even on holiday, we footballers like to stick together. I'll be meeting up with David Johnson and his wife Carol, and our Central League team trainer Roy Evans and his wife Mary — who'll all be staying at a nearby Holiday Inn — now and again for a few drinks and laughs.

It will also give me a chance to get away from all the publicity regarding my transfer request.

At the time of writing I'm still not sure what I'll be doing by the start of the season, but the interest in my move has been amazing.

Everyone has been asking me why I want to get away from Anfield, so this break in Norway comes as a welcome relief.

I promise I'll keep you posted with the latest situation.

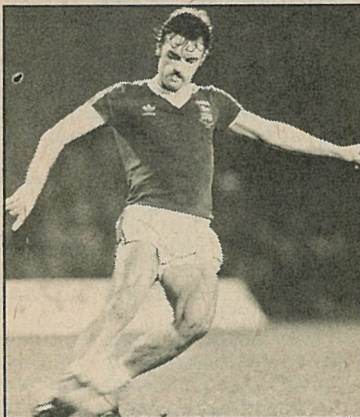
Ray Clemence



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

TROPHIES



1. Chesterfield and Notts County fought out the Final of which Cup last season? **ANGLO SCOTTISH**

2. Why are Swansea City in the European Cup-Winners' Cup next season? **WON WELSH CUP**

3. Did West Ham or Tottenham win the F.A. Youth Cup last term on a 2-1 aggregate score? **TOTTENHAM**

4. Which award did Ipswich Town's John Wark (left) collect in March? **PFA PLAYER OF YEAR**

5. Can you name the Morton striker who won SHOOT'S Most Exciting Player of the Year award for 1979? **ANDY RITCHIE**

PICTURE PUZZLE



Study the photograph (above), taken last season during a Queens Park Rangers versus Newcastle United game, and see if you can answer the following questions.

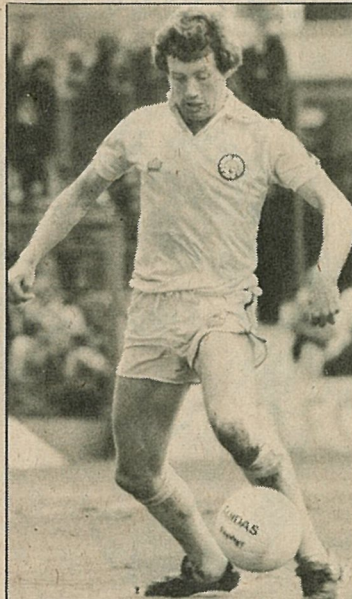
1. Can you identify the Newcastle player in the middle? **TERRY HIBBITT**
2. He has a brother playing in the First Division. Do you know him and which club he plays for? **KENNY WOLVES**
3. The game was played at Loftus

Road, home of Q.P.R. in September, 1980. Did Newcastle win 1-0, 2-0 or 3-2? **2-0**

4. Can you name the managers of Queens Park Rangers and Newcastle?

True or False?

- T 1. The first time Scotland qualified for a World Cup Finals was the 1954 tournament in Switzerland.
- T 2. Manchester United's worst defeat was by 7-0 at Aston Villa in the First Division in December 1930.



F 3. Leeds United's Trevor Cherry (above) began his League career with Fourth Division Hereford United.

T 4. Orient's Peter Taylor formerly played for Southend United, Crystal Palace and Tottenham.

F 5. Wigan Athletic's player-manager Larry Lloyd is a full Northern Ireland International.

Spot the clubs

The following line-ups won the F.A. Cup during the 1970's. Can you name the clubs and the year they won the trophy?

1. Harvey, Reaney, Madeley, Bremner, Charlton, Hunter, Lorimer, Clarke, Jones, Giles, Gray. **LEEDS - 1972**
2. Montgomery, Malone, Guthrie, Horswill, Watson, Pitt, Kerr, Hughes, Halom, Porterfield, Tueart. **SUNDERLAND - 1973**
3. Day, McDowell, Taylor (T), Lock, Lampard, Bonds, Paddon, Brookings, Jennings, Taylor (A), Holland. **WEST HAM - 1975**
4. Turner, Rodrigues, Peach, Holmes, Blyth, Steele, Gilchrist, Channon, Osgood, McCalliog, Stokes. **SOUTHAMPTON - 1976**
5. Cooper, Burley, Mills, Osborne (Lambert), Hunter, Beattie, Talbot, Wark, Mariner, Geddis, Woods. **IPSWICH - 1978**

ANSWERS:

STRIKERS: 1. 102 in 231, 2. Colin McAdam, 3. Greenhoff, 4. Republic of Ireland, 5. Rochdale, Norwich, Coventry and West Brom.
TROPHIES: 1. Anglo-Scottish 2. They won the Welsh Cup last season, 3. West Ham, 4. The P.F.A. Player of the Year award, 5. Andy Ritchie.
TRUE OR FALSE: 1. True, 2. True, 3. False, 4. he started with Huddersfield Town, 5. True, 5. False — he is an England international.
SPOT THE CLUBS: 1. Leeds in 1972, 2. Sunderland in 1973, 3. West Ham in 1975, 4. Southampton in 1976, 5. Ipswich Town in 1978.
PICTURE PUZZLE: 1. Terry Hobbitt, 2. Kenny Rogers, 3. 2-1, 4. Terry Venables at Rangers and Arthur Cox at Newcastle.

STRIKERS



1. Norwich City's former Manchester City, Bristol City number nine Joe Royle (above, left) began his League career with Everton. Did he score 100, 102 or 103 League goals in 231, 241 or 251 League appearances?

2. Can you name the Glasgow Rangers striker who finished the club's top goalscorer last season with 21 goals? **COLIN McADAM**

3. Did Jimmy Greenhoff, Joe Jor-

dan or Lou Macari score Manchester United's winning goal in their 1-0 F.A. Cup Semi-Final replay victory against Liverpool in 1979? **MACARI**

4. Brighton's Mike Robinson is a full international for which country? **IRE**

5. David Cross helped West Ham to the Second Division Championship last season. He has played for four other League clubs... can you name them?

ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:—

(1) Are. (4) Per. (5) Shearer. (9) Larne. (12) Set. (16) Age. (17) John Toshack. (19) Ash. (21) Ode. (23) Worthington. (25) Lee. (26) Red. (28) Mills. (31) Fashanu. (34) Kop. (35) Yet.

DOWN:—

(1) Ape. (2) Real. (3) Err. (6) Hen. (7) Exe. (8) Gain. (11) Ensured. (12) Statham. (13) Taken. (14) Sea. (15) Dodd. (18) Tower. (20) Show. (22) Elm. (24) Gold. (27) Era. (29) Ian. (30) Shoe. (32) Sky. (33) Apt.

THE hot Zurich sun beat down mercilessly. It was so sticky that the England players had been given the day off, to recover physically and mentally after the 2-1 World Cup defeat in Basle. The Under-21's, who had played the day before the full team, weren't so fortunate and had to train in weather so hot the seniors had even been banned from sunbathing.

One man, however, decided to train. Joe Corrigan, who knew he wouldn't play bar an injury to Ray Clemence, went along with the youngsters to work out for an hour.

Ron Greenwood says Big Joe's enthusiasm typifies the spirit every squad must have, and certainly at a time when, for one reason or another, players have pulled out of England parties, the Manchester City goalkeeper still has a tremendous appetite for work.

He's never cried off in five years, even though he has averaged around one cap per year. If Peter

Shilton's withdrawal from the recent tour was regrettable, at least Corrigan was promoted from number three to number two 'keeper in the squad, and after such loyalty few would begrudge him that.

"Being the number two certainly lifted my spirits," he said. "When I was number three I was always in the stand for games, but at least the reserve is closer to things on the bench."

"I've often sat back and won-

Corrigan clears from Scotland's Joe Jordan, assisted by England team-mate Graham Rix.



EVER-PRESENT CORRIGAN UNDERSTANDS ENGLAND 'DROP-OUTS'

dered if all the hard work was in vain, but playing, or simply being with England is a great honour. I feel I have a duty and I've never let it get me down.

"One injury can allow an outfield player to play in, perhaps, a slightly different role. With a goalkeeper it's different.

"The worst part is being away from my family. Last year I had just ten days off between the end of the European Championship and pre-season training.

"My attitude is that football has given my family a good standard of living, better than a nine to five job, so whatever the situation we're better off.

"This summer the players will have more time off and I hope Peter Shilton can sort his problems out. I can appreciate players pulling out of squads. Some become very homesick. I don't know exactly what's going on with

Peter, but the rest should do him good."

Last season was a good one for Corrigan personally, despite a bust-up with former City manager Malcolm Allison and a knee injury.

"After John Bond took over everything changed at Maine Road. All my old enthusiasm came back and at the end of the season I was playing as well as ever.

"It was some consolation to be chosen as Man of the Matches over the two F.A. Cup Final games. Obviously I'd rather have a winners' medal, but we were beaten by the better team on the night.

'Capable'

"I don't think it's my last chance of a medal. I believe the side John Bond is building will be capable of going to Wembley again. The Championship is slightly different. You have to be a heck of a good team to win the title, but I'd say in two or three years we may be knocking on the door.

"Our young players will have learnt from the Cup runs, and some had valuable international experience. They'll be better for it. The kids help me to stay young and my experience helps them."

This summer Corrigan was planning two weeks in Seattle with Bob Wilson to conduct some soccer clinics in the USA. It's something he is very keen on.

"Goalkeepers need specialised training. The time will come when all the top clubs have a coach in charge of the 'keepers."

"When I finally retire this is an area that interests me, something I'd like to follow up and develop."

If the young goalies Corrigan teaches show the sort of dedication and professionalism the City man does, they'll stand a good chance of making the grade.



THERE can't have been many managers who were able to say on the day they got the sack: "We only lost nine League matches all season — and we won the last seven!"

That is exactly what Dave Sexton was able to turn round and offer as immediate ammunition that he had been badly done by at Manchester United.

And yet because he is the sort of man he is, Dave, once he had got over the initial pangs of bitterness, was anything but critical and indeed accepted philosophically that Manchester United are a law to themselves and may even have

"I would like to thank all the staff at Old Trafford for the help and support I was given in my time with the club. The players were magnificent and it has been very gratifying for me to read what some of them have said about me.

"Having said all that, I can understand why the United board decided they wanted a change. They had been taking some criticism from a section of the supporters for the way we played — not so much for the results, I don't think, because we've done very well in the last couple of seasons — and that is always a danger signal for a manager.

"Maybe Manchester United do need someone who is more

extrovert than me, who enjoys the limelight, and I hope they now have the man they are looking for. United are a great club and I wish them all the best in the future.

"But now my future lies with Coventry City and I am just as excited about the prospects at Highfield Road as I was when I moved to Manchester.

"I don't know who makes up the fixture lists these days but he must have quite a sense of humour pairing us with United on the first day of the season. I'm sure a computer couldn't have dreamed up that one!

"As you know, I love working with young players and from that point of view I couldn't have come

to a better club. I have always enjoyed coming to Coventry because the club seems to be splendidly run on very professional lines.

"I have always admired the way Gordon Milne has brought on younger players rather than diving into the transfer market and it is a great testimony to him that so many teenagers have played their way into the Coventry first team in the last few seasons.

"Obviously I don't know many of them very well, but when I was in charge of the Under-21 side which beat the Republic of Ireland at Anfield last season I was very impressed by the composure and skill on the ball of young Danny

'NO GRUDGES' SEXTON WANTS TO STOP UNITED'S RUN



Action from Coventry's visit to Old Trafford last season.

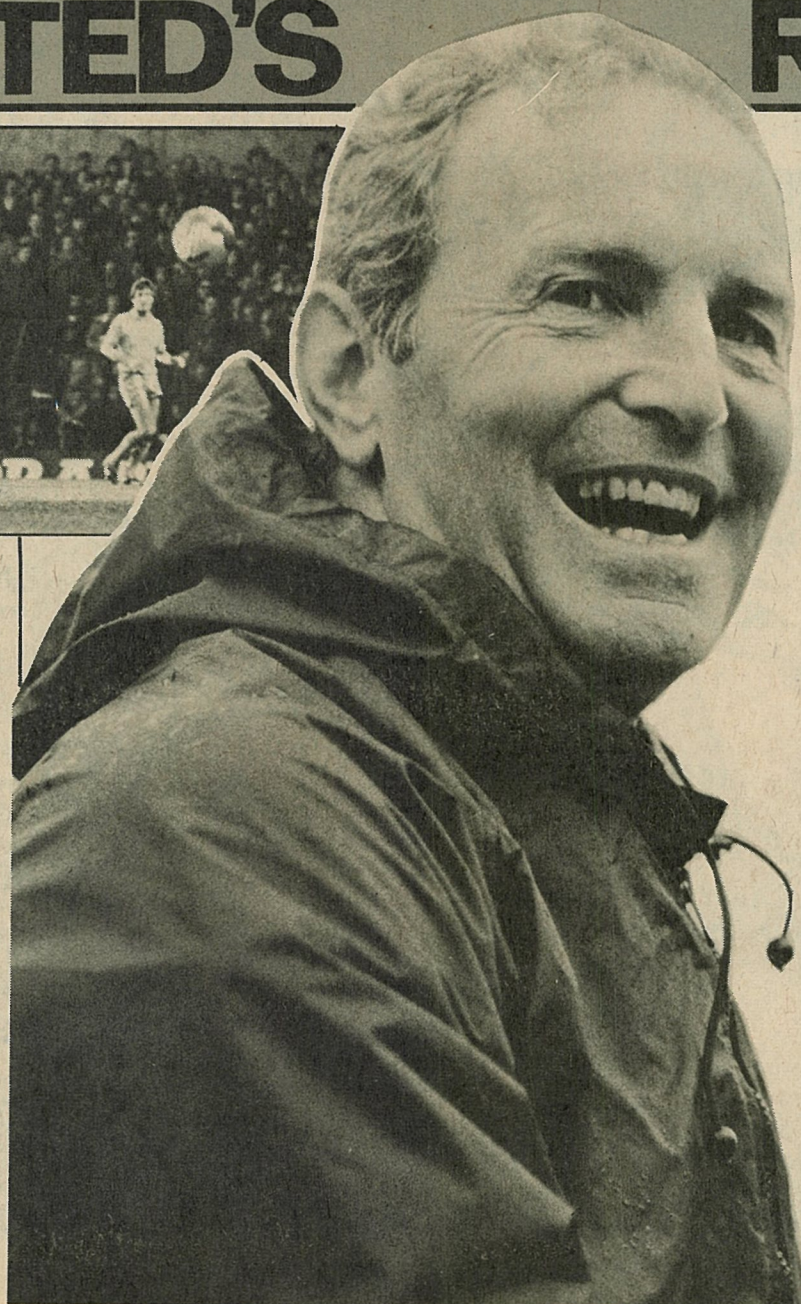
been justified in giving him his cards.

"From the moment I took over at Old Trafford I knew my job there was going to be different from any other I'd ever had.

"The manager of Manchester United is under constant scrutiny, and Ron Atkinson will begin to realise that from the moment he steps into office.

"Nobody can possibly realise the peculiarities of the job without actually doing it. I managed two top clubs in London, Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers when both were at the top of the First Division, and yet I was never under such demand as I was all the time I was in Manchester even when we were in mid-table.

"People have said that I don't enjoy working with the media and that that caused my downfall at Old Trafford — but that's not strictly true. I have some very good friends in journalism and television and radio. Maybe I'm not as outgoing as some of the Press would like, but generally I think I get on quite well with most people.



Thomas and he looks like being a great prospect for the future.

"Lads like Garry Thompson, Tommy English and Peter Bodak did well, too, last season and I am sure we have a solid basis on which to work."

Sexton in fact has good cause to remember Coventry City from last season. They knocked United out of the League Cup in the Second Round, winning each leg 1-0 with goals from English at Old Trafford and Andy Blair at Highfield Road.

In the League meetings there was a goalless draw at Old Trafford and Sexton finally got his revenge when United won 2-0 at Coventry late in the season with two cracking efforts from Joe Jordan.

"We had a fabulous run-in with those seven successive victories and it was nice for me to sign off in that manner," says the new Coventry manager.

"Now I'd like to halt that run when we meet United on the first day of what can be a new and exciting season for Coventry City," he added, with a glint in his eye, which suggested he's determined to put one over his old club.

SEXTON'S MANAGERIAL CAREER

Dave Sexton was appointed manager of Orient in 1966, but within a year had moved across London to Chelsea. While at Stamford Bridge, Chelsea won the F.A. Cup in 1970 and the Cup-Winners' Cup the following season. Chelsea also reached the League Cup Final in 1972 before Sexton left for nearby Q.P.R. in 1974. Under his leadership, Rangers enjoyed their best ever season when they finished League runners-up in 1976. In July, 1977 he left to take over at Old Trafford, steering United to the 1979 F.A. Cup Final and runners-up spot in the 1979-80 League campaign.

BATSON'S LAST CHANCE



BRENDON Batson has set himself an early-season target, and it spells trouble for England's established right-backs.

West Bromwich Albion's stylish 28-year-old defender is determined to put behind him a season which he believes was his most disappointing at The Hawthorns, and throw everything into one concerted bid to become first-choice right-back in Ron Greenwood's international team.

Batson declared: "If I am ever going to break into the full England side it has got to be in the first three months of next season. I want to go to Spain for the World Cup Finals.

"I know my name has cropped up in the newspapers, magazines and among supporters when the England team has been discussed, but it is Ron Greenwood who makes the decisions. He is the man I must impress, and quickly.

"I believe it is important to set yourself deadlines, especially for

something as important as playing for England. It goes without saying that I want that opportunity, but I also admit that I have to set about earning it as from the opening game in August."

Albion impressed many neutral fans with their exciting, entertaining brand of football last season, and it is fair to say that with a little more consistency they could have run their Birmingham rivals and ultimate Champions, Aston Villa, a much closer race.

It is ironic, therefore, that a player who played in more than 70 per cent of the First Division games that saw West Brom finish fourth in the table and qualify for Europe should consider his contribution to be unsatisfactory.

Batson explained: "I missed the start of the season with a thigh injury picked up in the first week of pre-season training. And when I eventually got back in the side I lasted one match before it broke down again.

Nagging Doubt

"To be fair, I played some games 90 per cent fit and always had that nagging doubt in my mind that I was not as fit as the rest of the lads. I had to pace myself more carefully for fear of blowing out in the closing stages of games.

"This came as a real blow to me because from the time I joined Albion in February, 1978, I missed only a handful of games. Last season, by comparison, was a bitter disappointment, especially with the team really buzzing and the England scene hotting up for the World Cup games.

"I am resting my thigh all through this summer because it continued to trouble me during the season. I am determined to kick off 1981-82 fully fit and equally determined to become part of the international scene.

"You must include consistency to all the other qualities required to make the grade at England level. Last season I was not consistent so I have it all to do.

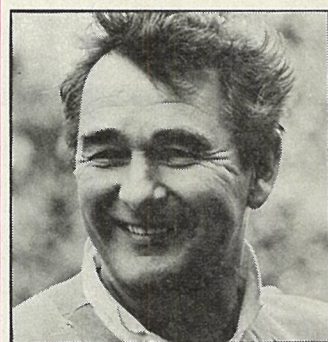
"But make no mistake. I am fortunate enough to play for a team that allows skill and flair to show itself. So if I deserve the chance to play for England I will earn it with Albion.

"I am aiming for the pinnacle of my career, and if England are going to Spain in 1982 I desperately want to go with them. So with all due respect to the lads in possession of that number two shirt, I am after their place."

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PLUS IN COLOUR

Double page pin-up of West Brom's superstar Bryan Robson + Frank McGarvey (Celtic) + Andy Ritchie (Brighton) + Focus on Everton's Steve McMahon + England's Young Lions.

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soccer magazine
that's too good to
miss!

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FOCUS ON CRAIG JOHNSTON

LIVERPOOL & ENGLAND U-21



FULL NAME: Craig Peter Johnston
BIRTHPLACE: Johannesburg, South Africa
BIRTHDATE: June 25, 1960
HEIGHT: 5ft 8ins
WEIGHT: 11st 5lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Lake McQuarrie (Australia), Middlesbrough
MARRIED: No
CAR: Porsche 924
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Star
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Glenn Hoddle of Spurs
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Kevin Sheedy
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Spurs
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Pele
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Surfing
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Arsenal's Brian Talbot
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: My League debut v Everton
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing to Wolves in the F.A. Cup Quarter-Finals
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Haven't noticed
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Big steaks and, of course, a tube of Fosters
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES: Playing well/People who can't play but who shout their mouths off
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Great Barrier Reef, a surfer's paradise
FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND FEMALE: Sylvester Stallone and Pamela Stephenson
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Practising guitar
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Chris Rea, Bruce Springsteen
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: Go home and think about the game
BEST FRIEND: Dave Rea
BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON CAREER: George Wardell and Bobby Murdoch, the youth coaches at Middlesbrough
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: England Under 21 caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To win everything I can
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? Professional surfer
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The person who presents the World Cup winners medal

Craig Johnston

SHOOT!